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ABSTRACT

The National Crime Survey measured the occurrence of an estimated 3.8 million violent crimes among intimates, i.e., acquaintances or relatives, during 1973 to 1976, in which three-tenths of the crimes involved persons married or otherwise related to each other. The data collection focused on identification of crime location, time of day or night, number and interaction of participants, weapons used, extent of injury to the victims, and rate of reporting to the police. Only three crimes of violence--rape, robbery, and assault--were investigated: child abuse was excluded. Acts of domestic violence involving relatives occurred primarily at night, while violent acts committed by acquaintances occurred during the day. Findings also indicated that: (1) these violent crimes rarely involved more than one victim; (2) 60% of the attacks involved weapons or harmful objects; (3) most incidents resulted in physical injury but few hospitalizations; and (4) offenses involving relatives had the highest police reporting rate. (Author/ELM)

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U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Justice Statistics

Intimate Victims: A Study of Violence Among Friends and Relatives

A National Crime Survey Report
SD-NCS-N-14, NCJ-62319
January 1980

U S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

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Preface

Throughout most of the 1970s, Americans have been surveyed regarding their experiences with crimes. The National Crime Survey, an ambitious program carried out for the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, was undertaken to obtain an accurate and independent measure of certain forms of crime and provide insight into their impact on society.

Data collected under the National Crime Survey have been analyzed and published in comprehensive annual reports dating from 1973. This report is one in a series of special monographs that complement the annual publications (see inside front cover), examining in greater depth selected topics on crime and its victims.

The National Crime Survey, hereafter referred to as the survey, provides estimates of the amount of crime, whether reported or unreported to the police, committed against persons age 12 and over and against households. Perhaps more important, the survey yields detailed information on the characteristics of victims, on the circumstances under which crimes take place, and on the effects of crime. Not all types of crime are enumerated, only those that victims are generally able and willing to report to an interviewer. For individuals these are rape, robbery, assault, and personal larceny; for households, burglary, household larceny, and motor vehicle theft.

Information in this report pertains to events occurring within the 1973-76 period, as derived from semiannual interviews with about 136,000 occupants of some 60,000 housing units across the Nation. Eliminated from consideration were crimes committed against U.S. citizens abroad and those involving foreign visitors to this country, although it can be assumed that such events were relatively rare.

As with results from any sample survey, caution should be exercised in interpreting data from the crime survey because such data are estimates and subject to errors arising from the fact that the information was obtained from a sample rather than a complete census, as well as to errors associated with the collection and processing of data. Appendix IV offers a brief discussion of the sources of error and provides additional technical information. A thorough treatment on sample size and structure and on the reliability and variance of survey data can be found in the recurring series, *Criminal Victimization in the United States.*

Estimates in this report are based on the full sample of respondents and have been weighted to approximate existing levels of crime nationwide. Unless otherwise qualified, statements involving comparisons of two or more numbers have met statistical tests that differences equaled at least two standard errors, or, in other words, that differences of this size would be produced by sampling variability 5 percent of the time, at most.

Survey findings discussed in this study are organized into three sections, addressing the setting, victim-offender interaction, and aftermath of violence among intimates. The text is complemented by graphics and followed by a series of data tables (Appendix I). Users familiar with other reports based on the survey's data should be alerted to the existence of conceptual and definitional differences in this study. A key variable in this report—the relationship between victim and offender—differs from that found in the annual reports. Individuals considered to be *related* (including *ex-spouses*) or *well known* (*friends, neighbors, classmates, co-workers,* etc.,) are regarded as *intimates;* others, whether *strangers, near-strangers,* or *casual acquaintances,* are defined as *nonintimates.* Thus the category "intimate" used here is less inclusive than the standard "nonstranger" category, whereas the term "nonintimate" encompasses a larger group of relationships than the term "stranger." The technical notes (Appendix III) and glossary should be consulted in order to gain an understanding of these concepts and other key terms.

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Summary findings

This report is one of the first efforts at describing characteristics and identifying patterns of intimate attacks using data from a large representative sample survey, the National Crime Survey. Violent crimes involving intimates—including relatives, friends, neighbors, or work associates—were contrasted with those involving strangers or near-strangers for the period 1973 through 1976. Major findings are summarized below:

- About 3.8 million incidents of violence among intimates were reported to have occurred during the 4-year interval. Nearly a third (1.2 million) were committed by offenders who were related to the victim.
- Approximately 55 of every 100 incidents of intimate violence went *unreported* to law enforcement authorities. In the case of domestic disputes, privacy or the personal nature of the matter was the most common reason offered for not reporting.
- In three-tenths of all incidents involving intimates, the offenders displayed or used one or more weapons; a firearm was present 10 percent of the time. An actual attack—when objects were thrown, weapons used, or victims physically abused in some other way—occurred in 3 of every 5 cases involving intimates. Threats, which comprised the remainder of the incidents, were more common to nonintimate than intimate crimes. Self-protection was also related in a general way to the seriousness of the crime and victim-offender relationship.
- Two-fifths of the intimate attacks resulted in injury; bruises, black eyes, cuts, and/or scratches were the most common injuries. Thirteen percent of the incidents were serious enough for the victim to require some form of medical care; a tenth needed hospitalization or emergency room treatment.
- Examination of incident summaries as related to interviewers by victims—a feature unique to this report—uncovered the existence of certain common scenarios in domestic violence, such as disputes among estranged couples or the involvement of minors.
- As might be expected, domestic disputes were most likely to occur in or near the victim's home; crimes involving nonintimates usually took place away from home.

Introduction

Public awareness and concern about violence within families and among friends burgeoned since that time when the Nation, shaken by reports of sharp increases in robberies, muggings, and other "stranger-related" attacks, focused its attention on a war to eliminate "street crime." The reasons for the shift of interest are varied and complex. Perhaps they are rooted in a recognition that crimes such as child and spouse abuse represent as serious a threat, if not more of one, to the social fabric as stranger-to-stranger violence. Moreover, although the pain and suffering associated with intimate violence has plagued humanity from its very beginning, relatively little is known about these tragic and often brutal acts because relatively few of them are reported to the authorities or otherwise shared with society at large.

Uncertainty about violence among intimates extends to measurements of the dimensions of the problem. There have been a number of efforts directed at estimating the amount of violence among acquaintances or relatives, and, depending upon the source, one could conclude that the Nation is in the midst of a tragic internecine epidemic, or, on the other hand, that intimate conflict rarely erupts into violence. The National Crime Survey measured the occurrence of an estimated 3.8 million violent crimes among intimates during 1973-76, three-tenths of them involving persons married or otherwise related to one another. Violent crimes among nonintimates numbered about 14.1 million in the same period.

There are a number of reasons for the existence of disparate measurements, not the least important of which relate to scope and data sources. With respect to scope, there has been no consensus on what to measure. To illustrate, regarding domestic abuse, the more ambitious efforts have sought to enumerate all types of hostile activity, from family arguments and juvenile spankings to deadly attacks. Not surprisingly, results of such studies suggest that domestic violence is not a rare phenomomenon. Other investigations have been more limited in scope, counting only those activities perceived as "serious," or as crimes punishable by law. Predictably, these studies have produced more conservative estimates. It is doubtful, however, that many individuals would disagree on the nature of the ultimate act of violence, homicide. Official police records, as presented in the FBI's *Uniform Crime Reports*, have shown that victims and offenders are acquainted, if not related, in a majority of murders.

Closely related to scope is the problem of multiple sources. Measurements of intimate violence have been based on a variety of data—from official or semiofficial records, to requests for assistance at counseling or crisis centers, to sample surveys of the population—and have utilized differing time periods, locations, and social groups. Most of the surveys have been highly localized and based on small samples.

Given the variety of definitions and data sources, it is understandable that disparate measures exist. Nonetheless, on one point most agree: underreporting is a problem, and available measurements of domestic violence, no matter what their origin or intent, are probably too low. Because of underreporting, intrafamily conflict and abuse no doubt constitutes the most obscure area of intimate violence. In view of this, summary case histories on domestic violence are included in the last section of the report. Based on personal accounts by the victims themselves, the cases were drawn from a special subsample of completed survey questionnaires and are intended to be illustrative.

Apart from uncertainty over the size of the problem, much still needs to be learned about the victims themselves—who they are and where, when, how, and why they are abused. Because of uncertainty as to the extent and variability of underreporting, however, truly representative measures of risk for different segments of the population are difficult or even impossible to obtain. The wife who reports a beating to the police, to a Census Bureau interviewer, or to a counselor at a crisis center may not be representative of the "average" abused spouse. For this reason, no attention is given in this report to personal characteristics of the victim, other than particulars on the relationship to the offender. However, because of user interest in such information from a methodological standpoint, two tables in Appendix II present data on selected victim attributes.

This study is a first effort at filling some of the informational gaps on the characteristics of violence among intimates. The data focus on where and when incidents take place, number and interaction of participants, weapons used, extent of injury to the victims, and rate of reporting to the police. For purposes of comparison, data on crimes involving intimates are presented alongside information on nonintimate crimes.

It is necessary to be aware of the scope of the report and the limitations of the data in order to evaluate the importance of the findings. Only three crimes of violence—rape, robbery, and assault—reported to interviewers by the victims themselves are examined here, and crimes against small children *are not tallied* because youngsters under the age of 12 are not surveyed in the NCS. Thus, this report *does not* deal with child abuse. Excluded also are series crimes, that is, three or more separate but similar incidents for which the respondent was unable to identify separately the details of each event. Research suggests that recurring attacks are not uncommon in certain types of intimate violence.[1]

In this study, as in others, underreporting remains the most serious analytical problem. The figure of 3.8 million intimate crimes, while considerable, is undoubtedly an underestimate of the true number. Analytically, the problem is complicated by the possibility that certain types of incidents, such as spouse abuse, are more likely than others to go unreported to survey interviewers. In explaining why victims of intimate abuse fail to share their experiences with others, researchers have suggested that abused individuals frequently fear reprisals if outsiders are informed, or they are reluctant to publicize matters which society regards as "priviate" or "family matters." It may also be true that respondents fail to report incidents such as rape or attempted rape by a spouse, or abuse by parents, because these events are not generally regarded as crimes, or legally designated as such in some jurisdictions.

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[1]See Deirdre A. Gaquin, "Spouse Abuse: Data from the National Crime Survey," *Victimology: An International Journal*, Vol. 2, No. 3-4 (1977-78), 632-643; Richard W. Dodge and Harold Lentzner, "Patterns of Personal Series Incidents in the National Crime Survey," in American Statistical Association. *1978 Proceedings of the Section on Survey Research Methods*; Washington, D.C.: American Statistical Association, 1979, pp. 378-382.

Typical settings

This section examines the background to incidents of violence, specifically when and where these crimes take place, the number of persons victimized, and the number of offenders present. The spatial and temporal dimensions determine, to a great degree, the character of any incident. Public perceptions concerning the settings of common crime affect citizen mobility, perhaps even leading to patterns of avoidance behavior. To illustrate, some people may fear and avoid walking down dark streets alone at night because they believe this setting puts them in danger. By contrast, many individuals feel relatively safe at their jobs during the day or in their homes at night. It may well be, however, with respect to certain types of crime, that these perceptions are inaccurate.

Family violence mainly at night

Roughly half of all NCS-measured crimes of violence—rapes, robberies, assaults—committed by intimates (i.e., persons who were well known or related to their victims) took place in the daytime and half occurred at night. Of the nighttime incidents, more than three-quarters transpired before midnight (Table 1). There were differences in the distribution, however, that were associated with the type of relationship. A slight majority of violent acts committed by friends, neighbors, close work associates, or others well known but not related occurred during the day. This was not the case for acts of domestic violence, that is, incidents involving relatives. By contrast, three-fifths of the violent incidents involving relatives were carried out at night, the bulk between 6 p.m. and midnight. The nocturnal nature of family violence has been attributed to the extensive amount of intrafamilial contact taking place during the evening. Simply stated, family members usually spend most of their time together after work and school, and so it is logical that the opportunity for conflict and violence is greater in the evening. Contact between friends, work associates, or classmates, on the other hand, is more apt to take place during the day. Violent crimes committed by nonintimates (i.e., strangers, persons known by sight only, or casual acquaintances) were somewhat more likely to occur during the night than day.

In the case of crimes committed by kin, the temporal pattern displayed some variation by type of relationship. For single-offender crimes, which comprise the vast majority of all cases of violence among intimates, the relative incidence of nighttime attack was greater among spouses and ex-spouses than among all of the other kinship groups combined (Table 2). The disparity was particularly noticeable when incidents of spouse and ex-spouse abuse were compared with those involving relatives not in the immediate family, such as aunts and uncles, cousins, in-laws, or brothers and sisters.[2] It appears that marital partners and ex-partners have a tendency for nighttime violence while others feud about as often during the day as at night.

Place varies markedly with relationship

The concept of the home as a sanctuary from crime has relevance only in the context of nonintimate crimes. Indeed, 31 percent of the attacks by intimates took place in, and 13 percent near, the home; while 7 percent of the violent incidents perpetrated by strangers, near strangers, or casual acquaintances were set in the homes of victims and 9 percent nearby (in backyards, apartment hallways, driveways, etc.). Streets, parks, fields, playgrounds, and parking lots provided the setting for a slight majority of nonintimate crimes but only for a fourth of the intimate crimes (Table 3).

Acts of family violence were much more likely than those involving persons well known but unrelated to take place in or near the victim's residence; the comparable figures were 70 and 32 percent, respectively. Because the home provides the setting for much family interaction, but is only one of a number of places where friends and associates gather, this finding was not unexpected.

The spatial pattern for intrafamilial violence showed some variation by type of relationship. Most notably, incidents involving marital partners or ex-partners took place at or near the victims's home relatively more often than those involving all other types of kin taken together (Table 4).

Single victim vs. single offender

National Crime Survey findings indicate that, irrespective of victim-offender relationship, violent crimes involving more than one *victim* are uncommon. Only about a tenth of intimate or nonintimate crimes were characterized by the victimization of

[2] The difference between incidents involving spouses and ex-spouses and those involving brothers and sisters was statistically significant at the 93 percent confidence level.

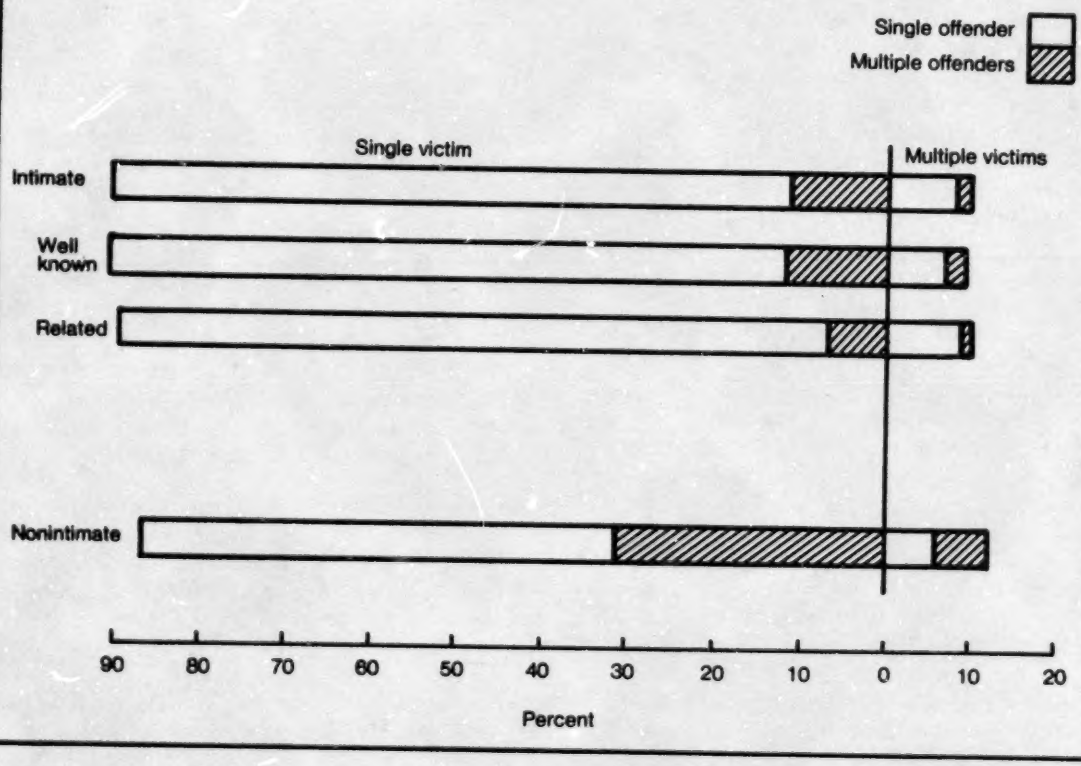
more than a single person, with the vast majority of these acts producing two victims (Table 7). Although there was statistical indication that violence among friends or relations was less likely than that among nonintimates to involve additional victims, the difference was not great.

With respect to intimate violence, there was no difference in the relative frequency of multiple victims in familial and nonfamilial acts. It was found, however, that attacks directed at a spouse or ex-spouse were less likely than all other family incidents, considered as a group, to include other victims (Table 8).

Acts of intimate violence committed by multiple offenders were about as rare as multiple-victim crimes. Roughly 87 percent were committed by a single offender and about 6 percent each by either two offenders or by three or more (Table 9). Although this general pattern persisted irrespective of the type of intimate relationship, crimes committed by kin were less likely to involve more than one offender. Multiple-offender violence was most apt to occur when the parties were not close. Roughly 2 of 5 nonintimate crimes were committed by two or more offenders; proportionally, groups of three or more were about 3 1/2 times more prevalent in cases of nonintimate than intimate violence.

When the number of victims and offenders was considered concurrently, the most common configuration, not surprisingly, was single victim/single offender. Four-fifths of all intimate crimes involved only two participants, and each of the other specific combinations accounted for no more than about 6 percent of the total (Table 10). The preeminence of the victim-offender pair over other combinations was evident for both categories of intimates. Regarding crimes between nonintimates, involvement by multiple offenders was more common, even though one victim/one offender was still the modal pattern. In about a third of these crimes, two or more offenders confronted a single victim. In 6 percent, two or more victims were encountered by a single offender, and there was a comparable number of cases characterized by multiple victims and offenders. In about 11 percent of the intimate crimes, two or more offenders confronted one victim.

Chart 1. Percent distribution of violent crimes, by relationship and number of victims and offenders, 1973-76

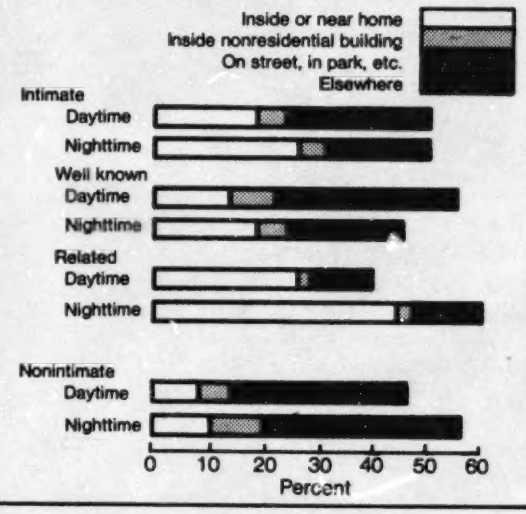


Summary

Violent criminal acts may be examined simultaneously from a spatial and temporal perspective, elements defining the environmental context. This analysis shows that the pattern for violent incidents involving intimates differed both spatially and temporally from that for nonintimate crimes, and also varied internally depending upon the specific type of intimate relationship. When relatives were involved, the most frequent setting was nighttime, at or near the home, followed by daytime crimes in the same kinds of places (Table 5). Incidents involving friends, neighbors, or work associates were more evenly distributed between night and day and were not clustered within or near the victim's home. In fact, violence between well-known persons was just about as apt to happen on the street or elsewhere outdoors as inside or near the home. By contract, nonintimate crimes at the victim's residence are infrequent; instead, the streets and other outdoor settings predominate, with nighttime occurrences being slightly more common than daytime events.

Examination of the number of participants showed that intimate violence most often involved a single victim and a single offender. In this regard, crimes between nonintimates were different only in the degree to which this single victim/single offender relationship prevailed.

Chart 2. Percent distribution of violent crimes, by time and place of occurrence, 1973-76



Victim-offender interaction

No matter what the setting, the violent acts recorded in the crime survey evince a wide range of aggressive behavior from verbal threats intended to persuade or intimidate to violent physical attacks with a weapon designed to maim or kill. Similarly, in coping with an attack, victims can react in a variety of ways, from resigned acceptance to active defense. This section explores aspects of the actual victimization event, comparing patterns of victim-offender interaction in intimate and nonintimate crimes.

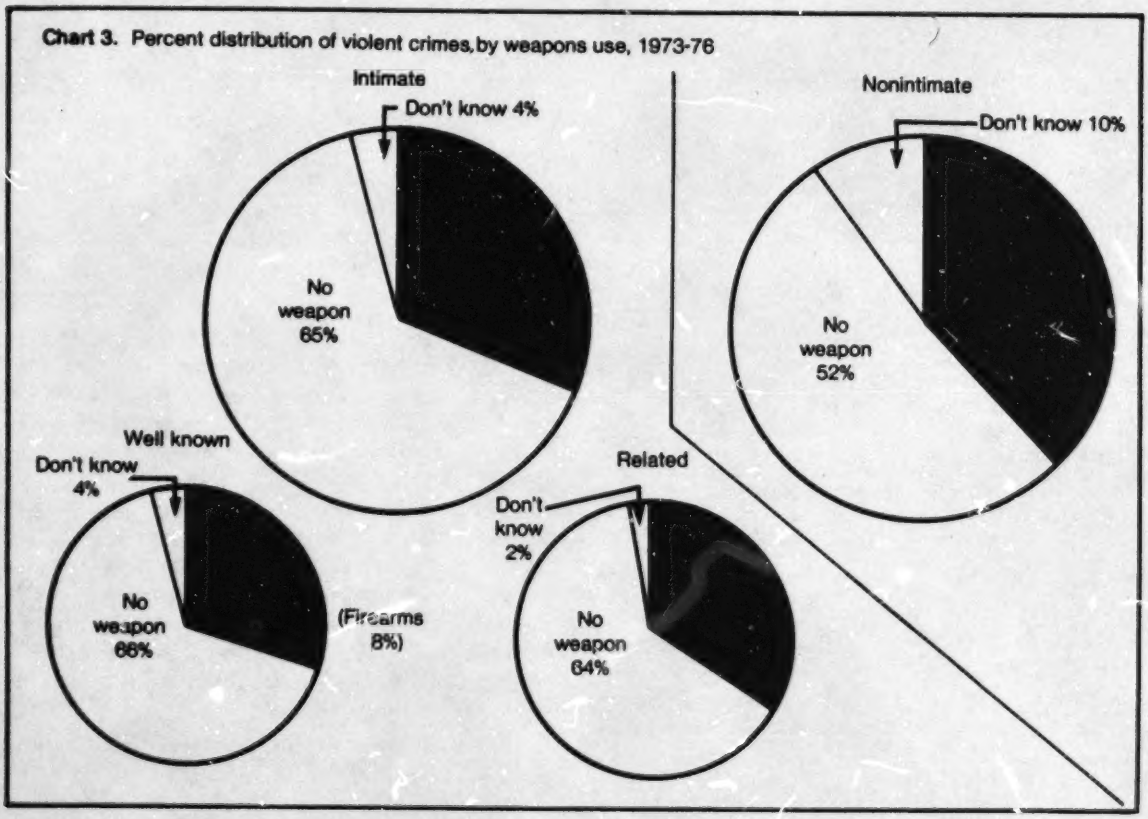
Although this discussion follows a logical progression—that is, from offender assault to victim response—the organization was guided by analytical convenience, for the survey does not provide information on the sequence of events. Although violent acts are treated in the context of a simple "attack-response" model, many crimes may, in reality, unfold in a different, more complex fashion. Similarly, although this analysis is grounded in a victim-offender dichotomy, there is reason to believe that this concept is an oversimplification—that separate and distinct roles are not always in evidence. Research has shown that some aggressors or precipitators end up the eventual victims when the intended prey takes to the attack.[3]

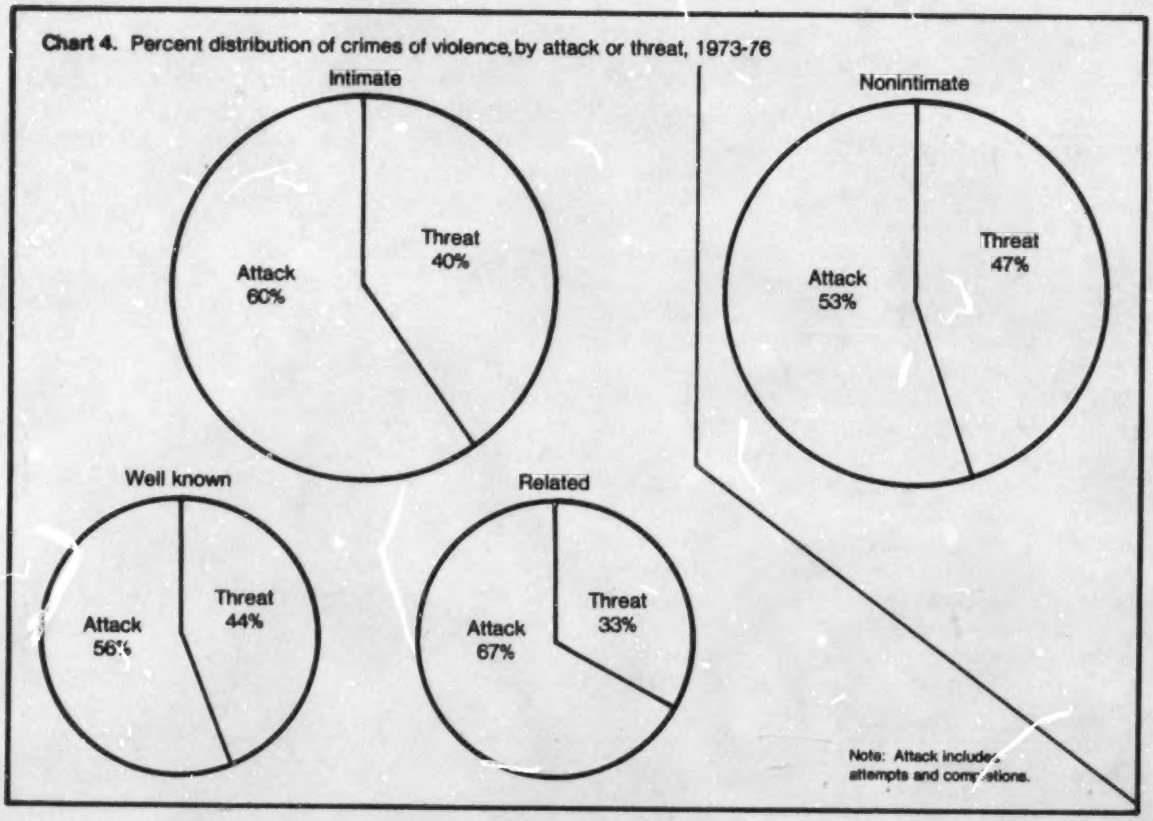
Guns, knives, sticks, stones...

Perhaps nothing enhances the risk of serious injury more than the presence of a bottle, knife, or pistol in the hands of an offender. Armed involvement frequently occurred in both intimate and nonintimate crimes, but it was not the rule. About 3 of every 10 incidents involving friends or relatives and roughly 4 of 10 nonintimate cases were characterized by the presence of a weapon (Table 11). There was a somewhat greater chance that victims would not know if their attackers were armed when the individual was unknown or only slightly known.

[3]See, for example, Marvin E. Wolfgang, "Victim-Precipitated Criminal Homicide," *Journal of Criminal Law, Criminology, and Police Science*, Northwestern University School of Law, 1957 48(1) pp. 1-11.

Chart 3. Percent distribution of violent crimes, by weapons use, 1973-76





With respect to violence among relatives, violence between spouses or ex-spouses was less frequently accompanied by weapons than were all other domestic incidents (Table 12).

The type of weapon brandished is, of course, of considerable importance in determining the seriousness of a crime. A deadly weapon such as a gun heightens the possibility that an attack will lead to a serious or fatal injury. In approximately three-tenths of all intimate crimes involving weapons, offenders used a gun, alone or in conjunction with other types of weapons (Table 13). Knives were about as common as firearms, whereas "other weapons," such as belts, bottles, or rocks, were somewhat more prevalent. A similar pattern was in evidence for nonintimate incidents.

The distribution of kinds of weapons in acts involving intimates appeared to vary with the relationship. Whereas crimes involving persons who were well known but unrelated conformed to the trend mentioned above, i.e., a slightly higher proportion of other objects than guns, family incidents appeared more likely to involve the lethal instruments. Because of the scarcity of sample cases of family crimes, however, differences did not prove statistically significant.

Threats vs. attacks

Many crimes reported in the survey—whether or not weapons played a role—were restricted to acts of intimidation. Two-fifths of all incidents committed by friends, neighbors, or relatives were verbal or physical threats, and the remainder were attacks, most of them completed rather than attempted[4] (Table 15). Threats were relatively more likely to take place among close acquaintances than among relatives, and completed acts of violence were relatively more commonplace in kinship situations. With respect to family violence, approximately three-quarters of all single-offender incidents of spouse or

[4]Attempted attacks are defined as incidents in which victims escaped unharmed after being shot at or having objects thrown at them.

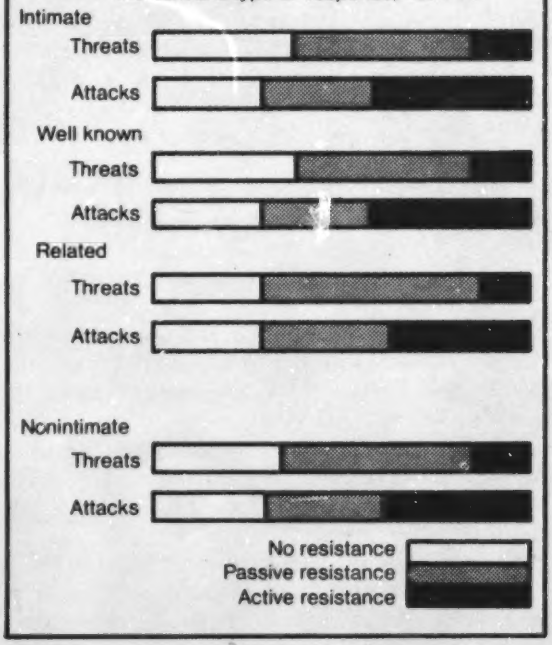
ex-spouse abuse culminated in an attack, a higher proportion than the average for all other kin crimes (Table 16). Compared with intimate crimes, the distribution of those among nonintimates was more balanced; only a little more than half these crimes were characterized by physical violence, including attempts. In proportionate terms, therefore, the possibility of actual attack appeared to increase with the closeness of the relationship.

Perceptions regarding what constitutes a crime may have influenced personal responses in the survey and, hence, these findings. It is possible that, on balance, the stronger the ties between feuding parties, the less likely a verbal threat will be perceived as a crime. A vague threat such as "I'm gonna get you for this" when uttered by one's spouse or brother or sister is no doubt treated much differently than when delivered by a casual acquaintance or total stranger.

Nonetheless, as noted above, many individuals do report being threatened, in a variety of ways, by friends, neighbors, or relatives. The vast majority of all single-offender threats involved some form of verbal abuse, alone or in the company of other intimidating actions (Table 17). Victims most often reported being threatened with bodily harm, the offender sometimes vowing to "kill," "strangle," or "break (the victim's) neck." In three-tenths of the incidents involving offenders who were well known but not related and in four-tenths of the domestic crimes, the aggrieved party was threatened with a weapon but not harmed. Few victims, irrespective of the type of intimate relationship, reported being threatened with rape and/or involved in situations where they were followed or surrounded by offenders.

Most of those assaulted by intimates experienced only the less serious forms of abuse. Rape or attempted rape, either alone or accompanied by other forms of aggression, was relatively rare, as was assault with a thrown object (Table 18). In 16 percent of the domestic incidents and a similar proportion of the nondomestic incidents, victims reported being struck with a hand-held object, shot, or knifed. The more common forms of attack involved such acts as being punched or slapped or physically abused in some other way. Thus, for example, in 81 percent of the spouse incidents victims were hit, slapped, or knocked down, and in 37 percent they were grabbed, held, pushed, tripped, or jumped.

Chart 5. Distribution of violent crimes, by nature of incident and type of response, 1974-76



Violence begets violence

An attack or threat of attack may be dealt with in a variety of ways. The victim may not respond at all, believing that the offense is not worthy of retaliation or enduring the humiliation or hurt in order not to prolong or escalate the conflict. On the other hand, the victim may seek to end the incident and prevent further abuse by resisting, either in a nonviolent manner—covering up, reasoning with the offender, running away, seeking assistance—or aggressively—striking back with a weapon, with fists, or any object close at hand.

Survey data show that in about 2 of every 3 cases, victims do something, if only to shout back or cover up, in response to a threat or violent attack (Table 19). This was true whether the offender was unknown, slightly known, well-known, or related. Actual attacks were somewhat more likely than threats to be accompanied by victim self-protection, except when the antagonists were related. Attempted attacks, whether committed by intimates or nonintimates, were characterized more often by victim self-protection than completed attacks. Finally, findings from single-offender incidents suggest that abused spouses or ex-spouses were no more or no less likely than other relatives as a group to protect themselves when threatened or attacked (Table 20).

But what of the types of action taken by those who defend themselves? The findings suggest that irrespective of victim-offender relationship, the nature of the response corresponded, in general, with the offender's actions[3] (Table 21). In situations where the victims were only threatened, the vast majority of responses were nonviolent, or passive, such as returning threats, yelling for help, or running away. Attempted attacks were more apt to produce a violent reaction,[4] although a majority of these incidents were still characterized by passive response. In cases of actual physical violence, however, most victims responded by striking back or attempting to do so (often in concert with less aggressive actions).

With respect to variations in the response pattern by relationship, there was indication that when the parties were related, victims were less apt to respond actively. This was true for completed attacks and appeared to be true for attempts, although there were too few cases of the latter to ensure statistical reliability. When committed by relatives, about half of all the attacks met with active victim resistance, but for those committed by persons who were well known but not related the figure was 59 percent. Fifty-six percent of all violent attacks between nonintimates produced an active response. As was the case with others, spouse-abuse victims only infrequently struck back when threatened, but often reacted violently when attacked (Table 22).

Without regard to the character of the offense, roughly two-thirds of the incidents elicited victim self-protection. Actual attacks were only slightly more likely than threats to generate a defense of some kind, but much more likely to produce violent counteraction. Those cases featuring the greatest amount of violence, completed attacks accompanied by a violent response, comprised about 23 percent of all intimate crimes. Participation by individuals related to each other did not significantly alter this pattern. Nonintimate crimes were somewhat more likely than intimate crimes to be characterized by weapons use, but less apt to result in an actual attack.

Summary

In roughly three-tenths of all intimate crimes of violence victims faced assailants who were armed with a weapon or weapons; 10 percent of the total number of incidents involved the display or use of the most deadly of weapons, a firearm (Table 23). Some incidents consisted of nothing more than harsh words or threatening gestures, but 60 percent were actual attacks in which objects were thrown, weapons used, or victims bodily mistreated in some other fashion.

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[3]Because of a revision in the question pertaining to self-protective measures, data on this subject are limited to the 1974-76 interval. Victim responses were classified as active or passive based upon the level of action taken, as described in the technical notes (Appendix III).

[4]For nonintimate incidents the difference was significant at the 92 percent confidence level.

The aftermath

In the wake of a violent attack, victims may experience physical suffering and economic hardship, and they may choose to report the crime to the police. It is possible that in the eyes of the victim such factors as injury and cost of recovery determine, much more than who attacked, the seriousness of the crime, and perceived seriousness plays an important role in determining whether a crime is reported to the authorities.

Most injured but few hospitalized

Whether perpetrated by intimates or nonintimates, most incidents of violent crime involving more than a mere threat resulted in some type of physical injury to the victim. Such injury occurred in 54 percent of the attacks involving nonintimates and in 63 percent of those between individuals who were well known but not related to the victim (Table 25). Three-fourths of the attacks resulted in injury when the offender was related to the victim, and a similarly high rate of injury was recorded for most types of single-offender, intrafamily abuse (Table 26). Thus, the likelihood of sustaining injury appeared to increase the more intimate the victim-offender relationship.

The extent of injury ranged from superficial cuts and bruises to serious wounds. About 1 in every 20 victims were knifed or received gunshot wounds, alone or in conjunction with other injuries,[7] and a roughly equivalent proportion had bones broken or teeth knocked out, or received internal injuries, or were knocked unconscious. Approximately 16 percent sustained "other" injuries, such as burns, hair pulled out, and pulled back or arm muscles. By contrast, roughly four-fifths of all those attacked suffered bruises, black eyes, cuts, or scratches; and, in most cases, these were the only injuries received. This overall pattern persisted whether the assailant was a stranger, a relative, or a well-known acquaintance.

The seriousness of the incident can also be examined from another perspective, namely, whether the victim received medical attention. For purposes of the survey, medical attention is defined as care administered by a trained professional, such as a doctor, nurse, medic, dentist, etc., either on the scene or at an office, hospital, or clinic.

Two-thirds of those persons injured by relatives, and an equivalent proportion of those injured by persons well known but unrelated, did not receive medical attention, although they may have sought help from nonprofessionals or treated themselves (Tables 27 and 28). Among persons who obtained professional medical attention after being attacked by intimates, approximately 17 percent were hospitalized overnight or longer and about half received emergency room treatment only. The remainder of these victims (28 percent) stated that no hospitalization was required, although their injuries may have been treated at the scene, at other types of facilities, or at home.[8] Here again, the pattern that prevailed for intimates as a group was by and large characteristic of incidents involving relatives, persons well known but not related, and also strangers and near-strangers.

With respect to medical costs, the great majority of the injured victims who sought medical care incurred expenses (Tables 29-30), although these were often defrayed by insurance. Irrespective of whether the crime involved intimates or nonintimates, medically treated victims had expenses in about 4 of every 5 cases. There was some evidence that persons related to their attackers were more likely to sustain medical expenses than those who knew their assailants but were unrelated.[9]

Considering the cost of medical care, approximately 11 percent of those intimate victims incurring expenses had bills of $250 or more. More often, the financial costs were less severe: approximately one-quarter of the incidents produced expenses of less than $50 and another fourth resulted in setbacks of $50-$249. For a large proportion of incidents, however, medical costs were not known or not provided. Victims of nonintimate violence had a slightly higher proportion of medical expenses in the $250 and over bracket than did the victims of intimate crime.

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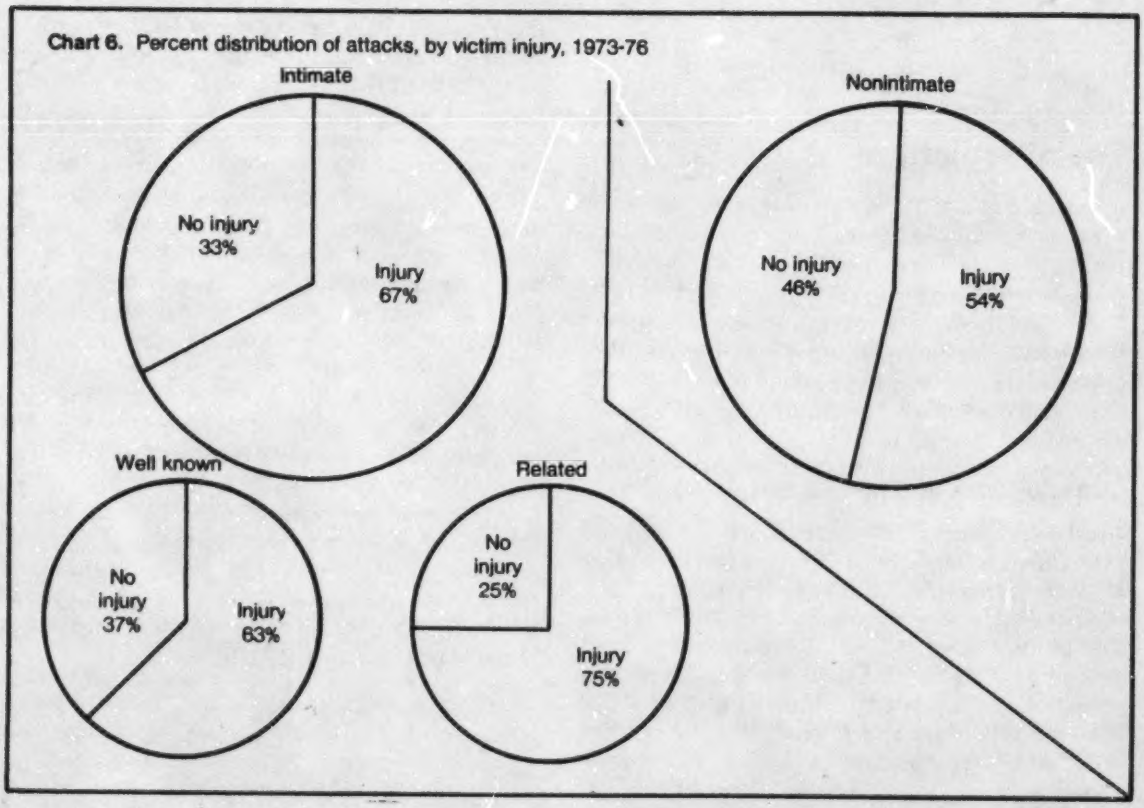
[7]Because this was a multiple-response question, the victim may have given one or more answers on the type of injury received. Analysis of multi-response patterns showed few victims gave three or more responses, and relatively few reported more than one serious injury.

[8]Because of an ambiguity in the questionnaire, a number of victimized respondents falling into the "other treatment" category may not have received any professional treatment at all. A discussion of the data on medical attention appears in the technical notes (Appendix III).

[9]Statistically significant at the 94 percent confidence level.



Worktime losses relatively high for family violence

Another consequence of crime is loss of income and production through job absenteeism. Roughly one-tenth of all intimate crimes of violence produced some disruption, with one-fourth of these amounting to losses of less than a day (Table 31). Incidents of family violence were somewhat more likely than those between persons well known but unrelated to be attended by lost worktime. Furthermore, a larger proportion of family violence cases resulted in worktime losses of a day or more. Two-thirds of the spouse or ex-spouse offenses resulting in worktime losses produced 1 to 5 days of loss and one-fifth, 6 or more days (Table 32).

Varied reasons for police nonreporting

While there was no significant difference in the police reporting rate for intimate and nonintimate crimes, violence among relatives was more likely to be reported to the authorities than that involving persons well known but not related. A majority, 57 percent, of all attacks committed by spouses, ex-spouses, parents, children, brothers, sisters, and other kin reached the attention of the police, compared with 39 percent of those incidents involving friends, neighbors, or work associates (Table 33). Moreover, the percentage of reported crimes involving relatives was higher than that for offenses among nonintimates (44 percent).[19] Incidents of spouse or ex-spouse abuse were reported at a rate not unlike that for all other kinship crimes (Table 34).

Justification for not reporting crimes to the police also differed with the relationship between victim and offender (Table 35). The reasons most often cited by victims of nonintimate attacks were that the crime

[19]The relatively high rate of reporting domestic incidents to the police was unexpected in the light of prevailing opinion about the hidden nature of family violence. Caution should be exercised in drawing conclusions, for although the findings may be explained by such factors as relative seriousness, they may also be related to variability of underreporting in the survey. It could be hypothesized that there is a much stronger positive relationship between reporting to the survey interviewer and the police in cases of domestic abuse than in other types of crime. Consequently, relative to other attacks, a larger proportion of domestic incidents which go unreported to the police are also missed by the survey.

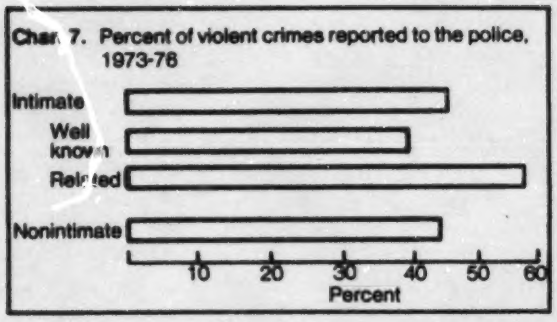


Chart 7. Percent of violent crimes reported to the police, 1973-76

was not important enough (32 percent) and that nothing could be done (27 percent). By contrast, the most common response from victims of an attack by an intimate was that the incident was a private or personal matter (48 percent). This response was especially prevalent when relatives were involved—it was offered in about two-thirds of such cases. The weight attached to considerations of privacy is not altogether surprising, given the central role of the family in American life. To many, family life is supposed to be characterized by love and kindness, not anger and harm. Failure to live up to this ideal standard may be viewed by the victim as abnormal, something which must be kept from public knowledge, lest shame and humiliation follow on the heels of physical injury.

Summary

Certain consequences of violent acts committed by intimate and nonintimate offenders have been examined. Four-tenths of the victims of an intimate attack sustained some type of injury; the equivalent proportion for those committed among nonintimates was about three-tenths (Table 37-38). However, the majority of injuries sustained in violence of either type were relatively superficial—bruises, black eyes, cuts, and/or scratches. As testimony of this fact, only 13 percent of the crimes committed by intimates were serious enough for the victim to require some form of medical care, and only a tenth necessitated hospital care or emergency room treatment.

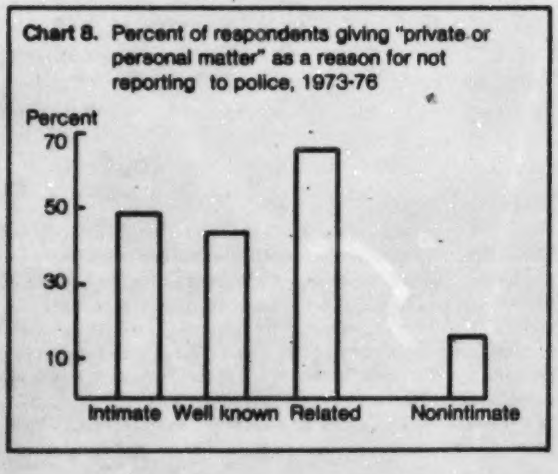


Chart 8. Percent of respondents giving "private or personal matter" as a reason for not reporting to police, 1973-76

Whether committed by intimates or nonintimates, about a tenth of all violent acts resulted in some worktime loss for one or more family members, with offenses involving relatives more likely than those involving persons well known but not related to cause absences of a day or more. As a group, intimates were neither more nor less likely to report crimes to the police; however, offenses involving relatives had the highest rate of reporting. The most common reason given for failure to notify the authorities of intimate attacks was the private or personal nature of the incident; for acts involving nonintimates, the reasons reflected the influence of practical, less emotional considerations.

Selected case histories of domestic violence

> "...the ex-husband repeatedly threatened the respondent with a gun... finally...the husband pointed the gun at the respondent and fired three times. In each instance, the gun misfired."

While the majority of incidents involving confrontations or attacks between relatives are not quite as dramatic as the situation above, in many instances domestic altercations can be highly charged. Situations leading to domestic violence can be sparked by specific arguments over children, excessive drinking, post-marital disputes, or may involve a slow building of tensions over seemingly petty disputes that suddenly erupt into overt hostility. This section will examine some of the written summaries of those incidents involving relatives or ex-relatives, in the hope of giving the reader better insight into acts of domestic violence than that provided by simple crosstabulations and frequency distributions. The descriptions presented are based on interviewer summaries, and thus are not necessarily the victim's exact description of the incident.

A representative sample of some 259 questionnaires involving violent crimes committed by a related single offender were examined. A proportion of these questionnaires were then selected for detailed case study analysis. These sample cases were then grouped along topical lines in order to facilitate their presentation.

Children frequently the catalyst

In many of the summaries examined, children were the catalyst in acts of violence between relatives. Typical were incidents in which the ex-husband wanted custody of the children, an argument ensued, and the wife was threatened with harm. In one case, the husband "...who had repeatedly harassed or attacked his ex-wife in order to take the children, pretended to be a maid at the motel where his ex-wife was staying. When she opened the door, he began to threaten her with a wrench. She locked herself in the bathroom, and he beat on the door. Fortunately, she was not injured. Motel manager called the police...". In another instance, the "...husband threatened to take a car and run over a relative after he had taken a child away from her (the ex-wife)—he then threatened to shoot or run over anyone who tried to stop him. This occurred at a family reunion and the husband was drunk."

Children are often not only the cause of domestic disputes; they may also become the victims. Typical examples were cases in which a parent threatens or otherwise physically harms a child during the course of an argument. For example, in one case, the respondent was visiting his stepfather, and in a short time an argument ensued between the two. The stepfather left the room to find a gun, and the respondent left. The stepfather followed the respondent into the yard and fired the gun twice. Fortunately, he missed his stepson completely.

Although recorded instances of child abuse were relatively rare,[11] in some instances the abuse was quite serious. The molestation of a child in one case was the final incident in a series of altercations between a wife and husband that led to the dissolution of the marriage. As described to the interviewer "...the husband molested the younger son several times. The husband told the wife 'if she reported him to the police they would believe him, not the child,' because 'he was a friend of the judge, and the police can't do anything in a domestic dispute.' Her husband was a former law enforcement officer. Because of this incident and several other disputes between the husband and wife, the respondent filed for a divorce and moved out."

Estranged couples often clash

A relatively large proportion of the cases involving intimate violence center on disputes between estranged couples. The case histories show that resentment and hostility are displayed by one or both of the parties for months or years after the separation. The potential for violence is often enhanced because frequent contact is unavoidable. To illustrate, a wife may have no choice but to remain in contact with her ex-husband after a divorce, often because he brings her support checks, or wishes to see the children. Such visits may be accompanied by threats or physical abuse from her ex-spouse. One respondent told the interviewer that while her husband was moving out, he suddenly attacked and tried to choke her. A more serious case involved an incident of attempted sexual abuse by an ex-husband. The husband "...came to the house to help with a repair and tried to force [the ex-wife] to have sexual relations. She resisted and argued. He pushed her around and roughed her up somewhat, but he...was persuaded to leave her alone." In another instance, the husband's ex-wife threatened him with a knife during the course of an argument. Later, the ex-wife arrived at her ex-spouse's apartment with the police "...took [the] respondent to jail overnight—wife stayed in apartment [and] took collection valued at $15." More common were cases involving pure harassment. Many of the summaries detail situations where the ex-spouse would either see or call the former partner to shout at or verbally abuse him/her. A somewhat typical example was as follows. The "...ex-spouse came to pick up son and began [an] argument. He used abusive language and broke (or damaged) front door." Even though the police are notified in situations that involve repeated verbal abuse, such abuse usually continues until the victim either remarries or moves away.

Alcohol abuse sometimes accompanies violence

The use of alcohol is often a contributing factor in acts of domestic violence. There were a number of reports of threats or beatings made by a drinking father or husband against some other family member. In one instance, a drunken ex-husband broke down the respondent's door with a chain wrapped around his wrist, and beat her up. Another case details how the ex-husband, after drinking, "...threatened wife, grabbed [and] shoved her down. Frequent occurrence, threatened to kill respondent because she had started dating." A somewhat more serious case involved a drunk husband who "...came home, started to beat me [the wife], then got a gun and pointed it at my face. I reasoned [with] him as best I could." In a case

[11] Since the minimum age for respondents is 12 and a proxy respondent is utilized for 12- and 13-year-olds a reliable measure of child abuse is not obtainable from the survey.

involving a drinking father, he threatened to kill each one of his three children. Luckily, this was just a threat—it was reported that no harm came to the children. Thus, it appears that the use of alcohol sometimes tends to magnify and exacerbate tensions between intimate parties to the point where verbal abuse escalates into physical blows and in some instances, threats of death.

Longstanding disputes may erupt into violence

In many of the situations, it is virtually impossible to determine why minor disputes erupt into vicious quarrels or acts of violence.

In some of the case histories examined, however, it appears that tensions and disputes build over a period of time to the point where threats and harsh words escalate into overt acts of violence. Many of the interviewer summaries detail such situations, where repeated threats of violence culminate in beatings, attacks with weapons, or other attacks resulting in serious injury to the victim. One particularly chilling example of such an escalation involved a married couple. There had been previous disputes between the two, and in one instance, the wife threatened her spouse with a knife. Finally, she tried to murder him by turning on the gas stove while he was sleeping, and leaving the apartment, making sure that all the windows and doors were closed. The victim smelled the gas and woke up before it was too late. In another instance involving a divorced couple "...[the] ex-husband argued, threatened, hit [ex-wife] once a week...in own home—on phone—in mother's house—wherever he saw her, day, evening, etc." It appears that jealousy may have been the cause of these outbursts, for one month after the above incident occurred, her "...ex-husband shot and killed the man she was dating one evening while she was at her mother's home." Afterwards "she was threatened with a weapon...".

In-law problems are the source of a wealth of humor in this country, but they also provide the background for tragedy. To illustrate, a respondent got into an argument with his wife's relatives, and while one man attracted his attention, two others "...went around the truck and shot me in the stomach...". In some of the analyzed cases there appears to be no reason for an attack, other than the victim being in the wrong place at the wrong time. For example, one respondent was injured when his son-in-law by marriage asked to see his wife and child (the husband and wife had separated). When the victim answered that they were not there, the son-in-law pulled out a knife and proceeded to attack him. The respondent suffered only minor injuries.

Police intervention

Perhaps one of the more pertinent and controversial issues relating to domestic violence is the involvement of the police in family disputes. A review of the interviewer summaries showed that authorities generally do one of two things: comply with the victim's wishes to remove the offender, or simply ignore such requests because, according to the victim, the incident is a "family dispute." A typical example of the first outcome would be as follows: the respondent was threatened with harm by a relative, the police were notified, and the offender was charged with an offense. Most of the cases examined indicated this to be the usual outcome for incidents of domestic abuse. Regarding the second situation, however, the reactions of the police sometimes vary. In a number of incidents, the authorities refused to intervene because they viewed the incident purely as a "family squabble," something that could be worked out between the two parties. In a particularly extreme example, a woman was severely beaten and suffered a concussion; yet, according to her, the police did nothing except laugh. In another instance, a woman encountered her ex-spouse on the street, she spoke to him, and he then beat her up. She sustained bruises, contusions, and loose teeth—but the police did nothing.

The NCS does not verify whether or not the police were notified, nor does it follow the incident through to its final disposition. Therefore, in some instances the respondent may *feel* that the police were not responsive, yet the officer on the scene may have another officer or detective do a "follow up" on the offense. Nevertheless, in some of the cases examined, there was a pattern of repeated harassment against the victim with the police being notified in each instance, and yet no action was taken against the assailant. Over a period of time, this apparent lack of interest on the part of the police may cause the victim to believe it is fruitless to notify the authorities, thereby increasing the feelings of bitterness and alienation on the part of the respondent. Thus, a vicious cycle may be set in motion, whereby the victim will not call the police because "they won't do anything," the offender, in turn, escalates the severity and intensity of the attacks, and the respondent continues to endure beatings and threats. And in such a situation, the victim often has no recourse but to

accept such attacks, attacks that some day may lead to serious injury, or perhaps even death.

Summary

This section has presented excerpts from interviewer summaries of incidents of domestic violence. Although it would be possible to conclude by presenting highlights of some of the more relevant aspects common to the incidents examined, one case in particular best sums up the dilemma faced by victims of domestic violence. As told to the interviewer the victim's

> "ex-husband tried to gain access to HH [household and] threatened respondent. He was inebriated and has a record of harassing respondent, and has attempted several break-ins during past 5 years. Respondent is fearful of her life [and] daughter's. Ex-spouse is an alcoholic. She hopes some law would be passed to protect people from this kind of situation. The police answer calls and remove intruders of this type, temporarily. They are back on the streets, on bail, to do more of the same. She was divorced 10 years ago, feels she has a right to live her life without fear of this man. She hopes crime survey will help this type of crime, of which there are many, which do end in death of innocent people."

Appendix I

Data tables

The 38 statistical data tables in this section are arranged along topical lines, paralleling the discussion of findings. Tables 1-10 present information on the setting, Tables 11-25 on victim-offender interaction, and Tables 26-38 on the aftermath. Unless otherwise stated, all tables contain data for the period 1973-76.

In general, two tables are presented for each specific subject. The first provides information on the victim-offender relationship for all crimes of violence; the second gives a more detailed breakdown of intimate crimes for single-offender incidents only. In both types of tables there is a small residual component, labeled "not available," within the intimate category. This subunit includes cases where information on the exact relationship between intimates was not provided by the respondent or was not classifiable.

All statistical data generated by the survey are estimates that vary in their degree of reliability and are subject to variance, or sampling error, stemming from the fact that they were derived from surveys rather than complete enumerations. Constraints on interpretation and other uses of the data, as well as guidelines for determining their reliability, are set forth in Appendix IV. As a general rule, however, estimates based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases have been considered unreliable. Such estimates, qualified by means of footnotes to the data tables, were not used for analytical purposes in this report. For data pertaining to the personal and household sectors, a minimum estimate of 10,000, as well as percentages based on such a figure, was considered reliable.

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Table 1. Time of occurrence, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Total	Daytime	Nighttime				Not known and not available
		6 a.m.–6 p.m.	Total	6 p.m.–midnight	Midnight–6 a.m.	Not known	
Intimate	3,809,000	1,877,000	1,908,000	1,493,000	407,000	9,000	24,000
	100.0	49.3	50.1	39.2	10.7	[1]0.2	0.6
Well known	2,517,000	1,368,000	1,133,000	899,000	224,000	9,000	16,000
	100.0	54.3	45.0	35.7	8.9	[1]0.4	0.7
Related	1,150,000	446,000	698,000	531,000	166,000	0	6,000
	100.0	38.8	60.7	46.2	14.5	[1]0.0	[1]0.5
Not available	140,000	62,000	77,000	61,000	16,000	0	1,000
	100.0	44.3	54.8	43.5	11.3	[1]0.0	[1]0.8
Nonintimate	14,125,000	6,575,000	7,468,000	5,685,000	1,768,000	16,000	82,000
	100.0	46.5	52.9	40.2	12.5	0.1	0.6

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 2. Time of occurrence, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Total	Daytime	Nighttime				Not known and not available
		6 a.m.–6 p.m.	Total	6 p.m.–midnight	Midnight–6 a.m.	Not known	
Well known	2,125,000						
	100.0	53.6	45.7	36.0	9.3	[1]0.4	0.7
Related	1,055,000						
	100.0	38.3	61.1	46.4	14.6	[1]0.0	[1]0.6
Spouse/ex-spouse	616,000						
	100.0	32.8	66.4	48.8	17.6	[1]0.0	[1]0.8
Parent	57,000						
	100.0	39.4	60.6	49.8	[1]10.8	[1]0.0	[1]0.0
Own child	38,000						
	100.0	42.3	57.7	[1]24.5	33.2	[1]0.0	[1]0.0
Brother/sister	76,000						
	100.0	48.2	51.8	43.3	[1]8.5	[1]0.0	[1]0.0
Other relative	268,000						
	100.0	47.5	52.0	44.2	7.8	[1]0.0	[1]0.4
Not available	140,000						
	100.0	44.3	54.8	43.5	11.3	[1]0.0	[1]0.8

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 3. Place of occurrence, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Total	Inside own home	Near own home	Inside non-residential building	Inside school	On street or in park, playground, school-ground, and parking lot	Elsewhere
Intimate	3,809,000	1,173,000	477,000	416,000	235,000	982,000	526,000
	100.0	30.8	12.5	10.9	6.2	25.8	13.8
Well known	2,517,000	448,000	350,000	349,000	217,000	821,000	332,000
	100.0	17.8	13.9	13.9	8.6	32.6	13.2
Related	1,150,000	693,000	113,000	49,000	2,000	123,000	170,000
	100.0	60.3	9.8	4.3	[1]0.2	10.7	14.8
Not available	140,000	31,000	14,000	18,000	15,000	38,000	24,000
	100.0	22.0	10.0	12.8	10.9	27.1	17.1
Nonintimate	14,125,000	1,029,000	1,262,000	2,208,000	889,000	7,388,000	1,349,000
	100.0	7.3	8.9	15.6	6.3	52.3	9.6

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 4. Place of occurrence, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Total	Inside own home	Near own home	Inside non-residential building	Inside school	On street or in park, playground, school-ground, and parking lot	Elsewhere
Well known	2,125,000						
	100.0	19.7	13.0	15.3	8.9	29.4	13.7
Related	1,055,000						
	100.0	62.6	8.9	4.2	[1]0.0	10.2	14.0
Spouse/ex-spouse	616,000						
	100.0	75.7	5.9	2.5	[1]0.0	8.5	7.4
Parent	57,000						
	100.0	54.3	[1]10.5	[1]4.4	[1]0.0	[1]6.5	24.3
Own child	38,000						
	100.0	70.8	[1]17.2	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	[1]11.9
Brother/sister	76,000						
	100.0	44.1	[1]9.9	[1]8.8	[1]0.0	[1]11.8	25.3
Other relative	268,000						
	100.0	38.2	14.2	7.5	[1]0.0	15.9	24.2
Not available	140,000						
	100.0	22.0	10.0	12.8	10.9	27.1	17.1

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 5. Time and place of occurrence, by victim-offender relationship

Time and place of occurrence	Total	Intimate			Nonintimate
		Well known	Related	Not available	
Total incidents	3,809,000	2,517,000	1,150,000	140,000	14,125,000
	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Daytime	1,877,000	1,368,000	446,000	62,000	6,575,000
Total	49.3	54.3	38.8	44.3	46.5
Inside or near own home	16.8	13.1	25.6	10.5	6.5
Inside nonresidential building	6.2	8.4	1.8	[1]4.3	6.1
On street or in park, playground, schoolground, and parking lot	14.0	18.7	4.2	12.5	24.0
Elsewhere[2]	12.2	14.2	7.2	17.0	9.9
Nighttime	1,908,000	1,133,000	698,000	77,000	7,468,000
Total	50.1	45.0	60.7	54.8	52.9
Inside or near own home	26.2	18.3	44.1	21.5	9.6
Inside nonresidential building	4.6	5.4	2.5	8.5	9.5
On street or in park, playground, schoolground, and parking lot	11.7	13.9	6.5	13.8	28.0
Elsewhere[2]	7.6	7.4	7.6	11.0	5.8
Don't know	24,000	16,000	6,000	1,000	82,000
Total	0.6	0.7	[1]0.5	[1]0.8	0.6
Inside or near own home	0.3	[1]0.3	[1]0.4	[1]0.0	0.1
Inside nonresidential building	[1]0.1	[1]0.1	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	0.1
On street or in park, playground, schoolground, and parking lot	[1]0.1	([1]Z)	[1]0.0	[1]0.8	0.3
Elsewhere[2]	[1]0.2	[1]0.2	[1]0.1	[1]0.0	0.1

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
Z represents less than 0.05 percent.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.
[2]Includes incidents inside school.

Table 6. Time and place of occurrence, by number of victims and offenders, intimate crimes of violence

Time and place of occurrence	Total	One victim		Two or more victims	
		One offender	Two or more offenders	One offender	Two or more offenders
Total incidents	3,809,000	79.7	10.8	7.6	2.0
	100.0				
Daytime	49.3	39.1	6.1	3.1	1.0
Inside or near own home	16.8	13.5	1.4	1.5	0.4
Inside nonresidential building	6.2	5.7	[1]0.2	0.4	([1]Z)
On street or in park, playground, schoolground, and parking lot	14.0	10.1	3.2	0.4	0.4
Elsewhere[2]	12.2	9.9	1.3	0.8	[1]0.2
Nighttime	50.1	40.0	4.7	4.4	1.0
Inside or near own home	26.2	21.6	1.9	2.3	0.4
Inside nonresidential building	4.6	3.7	0.4	0.4	[1]0.1
On street or in park, playground, schoolground, and parking lot	11.7	8.6	1.7	1.1	0.3
Elsewhere[2]	7.6	6.1	0.7	0.6	[1]0.2
Not known/not available	0.6	0.5	([1]Z)	([1]Z)	([1]Z)

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
Z Represents less than 0.05 percent.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.
[2]Includes incidents inside school.

Table 7. Number of victims, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Total	One	Two	Three or more
Intimate	3,809,000	3,446,000	275,000	88,000
	100.0	90.5	7.2	2.3
Well known	2,517,000	2,284,000	173,000	60,000
	100.0	90.7	6.9	2.4
Related	1,150,000	1,033,000	93,000	24,000
	100.0	89.8	8.1	2.1
Not available	140,000	129,000	8,000	4,000
	100.0	91.7	[1]5.6	[1]2.6
Nonintimate	14,125,000	12,331,000	1,288,000	505,000
	100.0	87.3	9.1	3.6

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 8. Number of victims, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Total	One	Two	Three or more
Well known	2,125,000			
	100.0	91.8	6.1	2.0
Related	1,055,000			
	100.0	90.3	7.7	2.1
Spouse/ex-spouse	616,000			
	100.0	95.0	4.1	[1]0.9
Parent	57,000			
	100.0	77.5	[1]15.1	[1]7.4
Own child	38,000			
	100.0	77.9	[1]22.1	[1]0.0
Brother/sister	76,000			
	100.0	86.7	[1]9.9	[1]3.4
Other relative	268,000			
	100.0	84.8	11.5	[1]3.7
Not available	140,000			
	100.0	91.7	[1]5.6	[1]2.6

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 9. Number of offenders, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Total	One	Two	Three or more	Multiple not available
Intimate	3,809,000	3,322,000	246,000	238,000	3,000
	100.0	87.2	6.5	6.2	[1]0.1
Well known	2,517,000	2,125,000	192,000	196,000	3,000
	100.0	84.5	7.6	7.8	[1]0.1
Related	1,150,000	1,055,000	54,000	41,000	0
	100.0	91.7	4.7	3.6	[1]0.0
Not available	140,000	140,000	0	0	0
	100.0	100.0	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	[1]0.0
Nonintimate	14,125,000	8,659,000	2,376,000	2,983,000	106,000
	100.0	61.3	16.8	21.1	0.8

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 10. Number of victims and offenders, by victim-offender relationship

Number of victims and offenders	Intimate						Nonintimate	
	Total[1]		Well known		Related			
	Number	Percent of incidents	Number	Percent of incidents	Number	Percent of incidents	Number	Percent of incidents
Total	3,809,000	100.0	2,517,000	100.0	1,150,000	100.0	14,125,000	100.0
One victim	3,446,000	90.5	2,284,000	90.7	1,033,000	89.8	12,331,000	87.3
1 offender	3,034,000	79.7	1,952,000	77.6	952,000	82.8	7,764,000	55.0
2 offenders	211,000	5.5	165,000	6.6	46,000	4.0	2,031,000	14.4
3 or more offenders	198,000	5.2	163,000	6.5	35,000	3.0	2,447,000	17.3
Multiple not available	3,000	[2]0.1	3,000	[2]0.1	0	[2]0.0	89,000	0.6
Two victims	275,000	7.2	173,000	6.9	93,000	8.1	1,288,000	9.1
1 offender	219,000	5.8	130,000	5.2	81,000	7.0	660,000	4.7
2 offenders	27,000	0.7	20,000	0.8	7,000	[2]0.6	264,000	1.9
3 or more offenders	28,000	0.7	23,000	0.9	5,000	[2]0.4	351,000	2.5
Multiple not available	0	[2]0.0	0	[2]0.0	0	[2]0.0	14,000	0.1
Three or more victims	88,000	2.3	60,000	2.4	24,000	2.1	505,000	3.6
1 offender	69,000	1.8	43,000	1.7	22,000	1.9	235,000	1.7
2 offenders	8,000	[2]0.2	7,000	[2]0.3	1,000	[2]0.1	81,000	0.6
3 or more offenders	12,000	[2]0.3	10,000	[2]0.4	2,000	[2]0.2	185,000	1.3
Multiple not available	0	[2]0.0	0	[2]0.0	0	[2]0.0	4,000	[2]0.0

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Includes incidents in which the type of intimate relationship was not available.
[2]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 11. Weapons use, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Total	Weapon present	No weapon	Don't know
Intimate	3,809,000	1,199,000	2,471,000	139,000
	100.0	31.5	64.9	3.7
Well known	2,517,000	764,000	1,647,000	105,000
	100.0	30.4	65.5	4.2
Related	1,150,000	385,000	736,000	28,000
	100.0	33.5	64.0	2.5
Not available	140,000	49,000	86,000	6,000
	100.0	34.7	61.0	[1]4.3
Nonintimate	14,125,000	5,435,000	7,346,000	1,343,000
	100.0	38.5	52.0	9.5

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 12. Weapons use, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Total	Weapon present	No weapon	Don't know
Well known	2,125,000			
	100.0	30.3	66.0	3.7
Related	1,055,000			
	100.0	32.8	65.1	2.1
Spouse/ex-spouse	616,000			
	100.0	26.8	71.8	[1]1.3
Parent	57,000			
	100.0	43.7	53.5	[1]2.8
Own child	38,000			
	100.0	54.3	45.7	[1]0.0
Brother/sister	76,000			
	100.0	40.0	60.0	[1]0.0
Other relative	268,000			
	100.0	39.1	56.5	4.4
Not available	140,000			
	100.0	34.7	61.0	[1]4.3

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 13. Type of weapon, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Weapon present	Firearm	Knife	Other	Type unknown
Intimate	1,199,000	30.1	31.9	36.4	5.8
Well known	764,000	27.4	32.0	39.8	5.0
Related	385,000	35.6	31.4	29.0	7.5
Not available	49,000	26.1	33.0	38.9	[1]5.0
Nonintimate	9,435,000	31.8	31.5	35.5	5.3

NOTE: Detail may add to more than 100 percent because of multiple response.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 14. Type of weapon, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Weapon present	Firearm	Knife	Other	Type unknown
Well known	644,000	27.6	33.9	37.1	5.0
Related	346,000	35.2	32.8	28.3	7.1
Spouse/ex-spouse	165,000	31.8	30.0	32.9	8.0
Parent	25,000	40.9	[1]26.8	[1]26.5	[1]10.7
Own child	21,000	[1]37.9	[1]20.8	[1]30.3	[1]11.1
Brother/sister	30,000	[1]24.0	42.1	[1]25.7	[1]8.2
Other relative	105,000	42.0	38.5	21.9	[1]3.8
Not available	49,000	26.1	33.0	38.9	[1]5.0

NOTE: Detail may add to more than 100 percent because of multiple response.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 15. Nature of the incident, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Total	Threat	Attack		
			Total	Attempted	Completed
Intimate	3,809,000	1,521,000	2,288,000	154,000	2,134,000
	100.0	39.9	60.1	4.0	56.0
Well known	2,517,000	1,102,000	1,414,000	109,000	1,305,000
	100.0	43.8	56.2	4.3	51.9
Related	1,150,000	378,000	772,000	39,000	733,000
	100.0	32.9	67.1	3.4	63.7
Not available	140,000	40,000	100,000	5,000	95,000
	100.0	28.6	71.4	[1]3.9	67.5
Nonintimate	14,125,000	6,618,000	7,507,000	790,000	6,716,000
	100.0	46.9	53.1	5.6	47.5

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 16. Nature of the incident, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Total	Threat	Attack		
			Total	Attempted	Completed
Well known	2,125,000				
	100.0	44.0	56.0	4.1	51.9
Related	1,055,000				
	100.0	31.7	68.3	3.2	65.1
Spouse/ex-spouse	616,000				
	100.0	25.3	74.7	2.0	72.7
Parent	57,000				
	100.0	39.9	60.1	[1]0.8	59.3
Own child	38,000				
	100.0	34.1	65.9	[1]4.7	61.2
Brother/sister	76,000				
	100.0	27.4	72.6	[1]6.0	66.6
Other relative	268,000				
	100.0	45.7	54.3	5.2	49.1
Not available	140,000				
	100.0	28.6	71.4	[1]3.9	67.5

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 17. Type of threat, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Total	Verbal threat of attack	Verbal threat of rape	Weapon present or threatened with weapon	Followed, surrounded	Other
Well known	935,000	83.2	[1]0.7	29.6	1.9	7.7
Related	334,000	76.8	[1]2.1	39.0	3.7	10.6
Spouse/ex-spouse	156,000	81.8	[1]0.8	32.0	[1]4.7	13.6
Parent	23,000	67.5	[1]0.0	53.0	[1]0.0	[1]11.1
Own child	13,000	[1]62.5	[1]0.0	[1]71.9	[1]0.0	[1]8.0
Brother/sister	21,000	69.8	[1]0.0	[1]44.2	[1]0.0	[1]7.9
Other relative	122,000	75.0	[1]4.9	40.8	[1]4.2	[1]7.5
Not available	40,000	86.1	[1]0.0	30.8	[1]4.4	[1]7.4

NOTE: Detail may add to more than 100 percent because of multiple response.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 18. Type of completed attack, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Total	Raped	Tried to rape	Hit with object held in hand, shot, knifed	Hit by thrown object	Hit, slapped, knocked down	Grabbed, held, pushed, etc.	Other
Well known	1,104,000	2.4	1.6	16.9	5.0	69.1	36.4	12.0
Related	687,000	[1]1.3	1.8	15.7	3.3	75.0	[illegible].6	15.0
Spouse/ex-spouse	448,000	[1]0.8	[1]1.8	12.1	4.2	80.7	37.0	13.0
Parent	34,000	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	[1]23.8	[1]5.5	74.2	32.6	[1]24.7
Own child	23,000	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	[1]28.9	[1]0.0	64.3	43.6	[1]17.2
Brother/sister	50,000	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	27.5	[1]0.4	68.0	29.3	[1]11.1
Other relative	131,000	[1]4.1	[1]3.3	19.3	[1]1.5	60.5	38.2	20.3
Not available	95,000	[1]4.2	[1]2.5	19.3	[1]4.6	55.7	29.5	16.7

NOTE: Detail may not add to 100 percent because of multiple response.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 19. Nature of the incident and self-protection, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Total		Threat		Attack					
					Total		Attempted		Completed	
	Number	Self-protective measures taken	Number	Self-protective measures taken	Number	Self-protective measures taken	Number	Self-protective measures taken	Number	Self-protective measures taken
Intimate	3,809,000	66.2	1,521,000	61.2	2,288,000	69.6	154,000	78.4	2,134,000	68.9
Well known	2,517,000	66.0	1,102,000	59.1	1,414,000	71.4	109,000	80.5	1,305,000	70.6
Related	1,150,000	67.5	378,000	67.6	772,000	67.4	39,000	73.5	733,000	67.1
Not available	140,000	59.7	40,000	57.1	100,000	60.7	5,000	[1]73.1	95,000	60.0
Nonintimate	14,125,000	65.5	6,618,000	62.1	7,507,000	68.5	790,000	73.6	6,716,000	67.9

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 20. Nature of the incident and self-protection, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Total		Threat		Attack					
					Total		Attempted		Completed	
	Number	Self-protective measures taken	Number	Self-protective measures taken	Number	Self-protective measures taken	Number	Self-protective measures taken	Number	Self-protective measures taken
Well known	2,125,000	66.3	935,000	59.1	1,191,000	71.9	87,000	82.0	1,104,000	71.1
Related	1,055,000	67.1	334,000	66.5	720,000	67.3	33,000	78.0	687,000	66.8
Spouse/ex-spouse	616,000	66.7	156,000	68.4	461,000	66.1	12,000	95.2	448,000	65.3
Parent	57,000	72.7	23,000	72.1	34,000	73.1	(Z)	[1]100.0	34,000	72.3
Own child	38,000	67.0	13,000	[1]70.8	25,000	65.0	2,000	[1]100.0	23,000	62.3
Brother/sister	76,000	67.0	21,000	52.4	55,000	72.5	5,000	[1]85.1	50,000	71.4
Other relative	268,000	66.7	122,000	64.9	145,000	68.2	14,000	[1]57.3	131,000	69.4
Not available	140,000	59.7	40,000	57.1	100,000	60.7	5,000	[1]73.1	95,000	60.0

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
Z Represents less than 500.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 21. Nature of the incident and type of self-protection taken, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Threat			Attack								
				Total			Attempted			Completed		
	Total	Active	Passive	Total	Active	Passive	Total	Active	Passive	Total	Active	Passive
Intimate	741,000	129,000	612,000	1,219,000	685,000	534,000	88,000	30,000	58,000	1,131,000	655,000	476,000
	100.0	17.4	82.6	100.0	56.2	43.8	100.0	34.3	65.7	100.0	57.9	42.1
Well known	511,000	95,000	416,000	769,000	454,000	315,000	61,000	23,000	38,000	707,000	430,000	277,000
	100.0	18.6	81.4	100.0	59.0	41.0	100.0	37.6	62.4	100.0	60.9	39.1
Related	212,000	31,000	181,000	399,000	199,000	200,000	22,000	4,000	18,000	377,000	195,000	182,000
	100.0	14.7	85.3	100.0	49.8	50.2	100.0	[1]19.5	80.5	100.0	51.6	48.4
Not available	17,000	3,000	15,000	51,000	32,000	18,000	4,000	3,000	1,000	47,000	30,000	17,000
	100.0	[1]16.3	83.7	100.0	64.1	35.9	[1]100.0	[1]66.9	[1]33.1	100.0	63.9	36.1
Nonintimate	3,102,000	615,000	2,486,000	3,918,000	2,192,000	1,727,000	447,000	112,000	335,000	3,471,000	2,080,000	1,391,000
	100.0	19.8	80.2	100.0	55.9	44.1	100.0	25.0	75.0	100.0	59.9	40.1

NOTE: Detail may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Table based upon 1974-76 data.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 22. Nature of the incident and type of self-protection taken, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Threat			Attack								
				Total			Attempted			Completed		
	Total	Active	Passive	Total	Active	Passive	Total	Active	Passive	Total	Active	Passive
Well known	424,000			652,000			51,000			601,000		
	100.0	18.6	81.4	100.0	59.4	40.6	100.0	37.8	62.2	100.0	61.2	38.8
Related	185,000			372,000			20,000			352,000		
	100.0	15.0	85.0	100.0	48.8	51.2	100.0	[1]18.8	81.2	100.0	50.6	49.4
Spouse/ex-spouse	87,000			224,000			9,000			215,000		
	100.0	14.2	85.8	100.0	46.9	53.1	[1]100.0	[1]20.5	[1]79.5	100.0	48.0	52.0
Parent	15,000			21,000			0			21,000		
	100.0	[1]0.0	100.0	100.0	[1]30.3	69.7	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	100.0	[1]30.3	69.7
Own child	6,000			14,000			2,000			12,000		
	[1]100.0	[1]22.1	[1]77.9	100.0	[1]38.9	[1]61.1	[1]100.0	[1]0.0	[1]100.0	100.0	[1]44.7	[1]55.3
Brother/sister	8,000			31,000			4,000			27,000		
	[1]100.0	[1]34.6	[1]65.4	100.0	61.3	38.7	[1]100.0	[1]34.6	[1]65.4	100.0	65.1	[1]34.9
Other relative	69,000			82,000			6,000			76,000		
	100.0	16.1	83.9	100.0	55.8	44.2	[1]100.0	[1]11.0	[1]89.0	100.0	59.1	40.9
Not available	17,000			51,000			4,000			47,000		
	100.0	[1]16.3	83.7	100.0	64.1	35.9	[1]100.0	[1]66.9	[1]33.1	100.0	63.9	36.1

NOTE: Detail may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Table based upon 1974-76 data.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 23. Summary measures, victim-offender interaction, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Total	Weapon present	Firearm present	Attacked or attempted attack	Self-protection taken	Active response to completed attack[1]
Intimate	3,809,000	31.5	9.5	60.1	66.2	22.6
Well known	2,517,000	30.4	8.3	56.2	66.0	22.6
Related	1,150,000	33.5	12.0	67.1	67.5	21.9
Not available	140,000	34.7	9.1	71.4	59.7	27.9
Nonintimate	14,125,000	38.5	12.2	53.1	65.5	19.6

[1]1974-76 data. Figures based on following totals: 2,902,000; 1,903,000; 890,000; 107,000; 10,604,000.

Table 24. Summary measures, victim-offender interaction, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Total	Weapon present	Firearm present	Attacked or attempted attack	Self-protection taken	Active response to completed attack[1]
Well known	2,125,000	30.3	8.4	56.0	66.3	28.2
Related	1,055,000	32.8	11.6	68.3	67.1	21.8
Spouse/ex-spouse	616,000	26.8	8.5	74.7	66.7	22.0
Parent	57,000	43.7	17.9	60.1	72.7	[2]13.6
Own child	38,000	54.3	[2]20.6	65.9	67.0	[2]22.6
Brother/sister	76,000	40.0	[2]9.6	72.6	67.0	29.2
Other relative	268,000	39.1	16.4	54.3	66.7	20.9
Not available	140,000	34.7	9.1	71.4	59.7	27.9

[1]1974-76 data. Figures based on following totals: 1,589,000; 817,000; 469,000; 47,000; 24,000; 61,000; 216,000; 107,000.
[2]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 25. Victim injury, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Attack and attempted attack			Injury[1]							
	Total	Without injury	With injury	Total	Rape	Attempted rape	Knife or gunshot wound	Broken bones or teeth knocked out	Internal injuries, knocked unconscious	Bruises, black eyes, cuts, scratches, swelling	Other
Intimate	2,288,000	757,000	1,530,000	1,530,000	2.3	1.2	5.1	6.2	6.3	82.7	16.1
	100.0	33.1	66.9								
Well known	1,414,000	520,000	894,000	894,000	2.7	[2]1.1	5.5	5.9	6.4	81.8	15.7
	100.0	36.8	63.2								
Related	772,000	192,000	580,000	580,000	[2]1.1	[2]1.2	4.8	6.0	6.3	84.3	16.8
	100.0	24.8	75.2								
Not available	100,000	45,000	55,000	55,000	[2]7.2	[2]2.3	[2]2.3	[2]11.8	[2]4.6	78.7	[2]15.8
	100.0	45.2	54.8								
Nonintimate	7,507,000	3,430,000	4,077,000	4,077,000	3.2	1.6	6.1	7.6	6.2	82.2	16.1
	100.0	45.7	54.3								

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Adds to more than 100 percent because of multiple entries.
[2]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample case, is statistically unreliable.

Table 26. Victim injury, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Attack and attempted attack			Injury[1]							
	Total	Without injury	With injury	Total	Rape	Attempted rape	Knife or gunshot wound	Broken bones or teeth knocked out	Internal injuries, knocked unconscious	Bruises, black eyes, cuts scratches, swelling	Other
Well known	1,104,000										
	100.0	31.8	68.2	753,000	3.2	[2]1.3	6.0	5.7	5.6	80.1	15.8
Related	687,000										
	100.0	21.0	79.0	543,000	[2]1.2	[2]1.3	4.6	5.6	5.8	84.3	17.1
Spouse/ex-spouse	448,000										
	100.0	19.1	80.9	363,000	[2]0.7	[2]1.3	[2]1.7	6.9	7.0	87.4	16.2
Parent	34,000										
	100.0	[2]10.7	89.3	30,000	[2]0.0	[2]0.0	[2]7.2	[2]4.1	[2]0.0	88.0	[2]22.4
Own child	23,000										
	100.0	[2]20.4	79.6	19,000	[2]0.0	[2]0.0	[2]7.8	[2]0.0	[2]6.3	92.2	[2]12.7
Brother/sister	58,600										
	100.0	22.7	77.3	39,000	[2]0.0	[2]0.0	[2]15.8	[2]0.0	[2]0.0	85.1	[2]5.8
Other relative	131,000										
	100.0	29.6	70.4	93,000	[2]4.4	[2]2.2	[2]9.7	[2]4.5	[2]5.6	69.0	24.7
Not available	95,000										
	100.0	42.1	57.9	55,000	[2]7.2	[2]2.3	[2]2.3	[2]11.8	[2]4.6	78.7	[2]15.8

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Adds to more than 100 percent because of multiple entries.
[2]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 27. Medical attention, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Injury			Medical attention received				
	Total	No medical attention received	Medical attention received	Total	Inpatient care	Emergency room care	Other	Not available
Intimate	1,530,000	1,017,000	513,000	513,000				
	100.0	66.5	33.5	100.0	16.9	54.3	28.1	[1]0.7
Well known	894,000	595,000	299,000	299,000				
	100.0	66.6	33.4	100.0	17.4	53.9	28.3	[1]0.4
Related	580,000	384,000	196,000	196,000				
	100.0	66.2	33.8	100.0	16.5	55.5	26.7	[1]1.2
Not available	55,000	37,000	18,000	18,000				
	100.0	67.9	32.1	100.0	[1]13.6	[1]48.0	[1]38.4	[1]0.0
Nonintimate	4,077,000	2,361,000	1,445,000	1,445,000				
	100.0	64.6	35.4	100.0	17.9	56.5	25.3	[1]0.2

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 28. Medical attention, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Injury			Medical attention received				
	Total	No medical attention received	Medical attention received	Total	Inpatient care	Emergency room care	Other	Not available
Well known	753,000			254,000				
	100.0	66.3	33.7	100.0	16.9	53.6	29.0	[1]0.4
Related	543,000			181,000				
	100.0	66.6	33.4	100.0	16.6	56.7	25.4	[1]1.3
Spouse/ex-spouse	363,000			117,000				
	100.0	67.7	32.3	100.0	17.2	53.2	27.5	[1]2.1
Parent	30,000			6,000				
	100.0	78.4	[1]21.6	[1]100.0	[1]27.4	[1]29.8	[1]42.7	[1]0.0
Own child	19,000			8,000				
	100.0	56.9	[1]43.1	[1]100.0	[1]0.0	[1]84.6	[1]15.4	[1]0.0
Brother/sister	39,000			11,000				
	100.0	72.2	27.8	100.0	[1]0.0	[1]83.4	[1]16.6	[1]0.0
Other relative	93,000			39,000				
	100.0	58.2	41.8	100.0	[1]21.1	58.3	[1]20.6	[1]0.0
Not available	55,000			18,000				
	100.0	67.9	32.1	100.0	[1]13.6	[1]48.0	[1]38.4	[1]0.0

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 29. Medical expenses, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Medical attention received			Medical expenses				
	Total	No medical expenses	Medical expenses	Total	Less than $50	$50–$249	$250 or more	Not known and not available
Intimate	513,000	88,000	425,000	425,000				
	100.0	17.1	82.9	100.0	27.2	24.8	11.2	36.8
Well known	299,000	59,000	240,000	240,000				
	100.0	19.6	80.4	100.0	25.8	24.9	11.1	38.2
Related	196,000	23,000	174,000	174,000				
	100.0	11.6	88.4	100.0	30.2	25.7	11.3	32.8
Not available	18,000	6,000	11,000	11,000				
	100.0	[1]35.9	64.1	100.0	[1]10.1	[1]11.0	[1]10.5	[1]68.4
Nonintimate	1,440,000	265,000	1,175,000	1,175,000				
	100.0	18.4	81.6	100.0	23.7	27.6	16.9	31.8

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 30. Medical expenses, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Medical attention received			Medical expenses				
	Total	No medical expenses	Medical expenses	Total	Less than $50	$50–$249	$250 or more	Not known and not available
Well known	254,000			201,000				
	100.0	21.1	78.9	100.0	24.8	25.3	10.5	39.3
Related	181,000			160,000				
	100.0	12.0	88.0	100.0	30.2	25.3	12.0	32.5
Spouse/ex-spouse	117,000			102,000				
	100.0	13.0	87.0	100.0	26.2	30.5	14.2	29.2
Parent	6,000			6,000				
	[1]100.0	[1]5.2	[1]94.8	[1]100.0	[1]20.0	[1]39.6	[1]0.0	[1]40.4
Own child	8,000			8,000				
	[1]100.0	[1]0.0	[1]100.0	[1]100.0	[1]70.0	[1]30.0	[1]0.0	[1]0.0
Brother/sister	11,000			8,000				
	100.0	[1]28.0	[1]72.0	[1]100.0	[1]28.8	[1]7.8	[1]0.0	[1]63.4
Other relative	39,000			36,000				
	100.0	[1]8.0	92.0	100.0	34.8	[1]10.9	[1]13.0	41.3
Not available	18,000			11,000				
	100.0	[1]35.9	64.1	100.0	[1]10.1	[1]11.0	[1]10.5	[1]68.4

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 31. Loss of time from work, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Total			Amount of time lost				
	Total	No time lost	Time lost	Total	Less than 1 day	1–5 days	6 days or more	Not known
Intimate	3,809,000	3,366,000	443,000	443,000				
	100.0	88.4	11.6	100.0	24.2	50.2	23.2	2.3
Well known	2,517,000	2,277,000	239,000	239,000				
	100.0	90.5	9.5	100.0	29.3	43.8	24.1	[1]2.8
Related	1,150,000	967,000	184,000	184,000				
	100.0	84.0	16.0	100.0	17.2	58.6	22.9	[1]1.4
Not available	140,000	121,000	20,000	20,000				
	100.0	86.0	14.0	100.0	[1]27.8	[1]50.7	[1]16.0	[1]5.5
Nonintimate	14,125,000	12,809,000	1,315,000	1,315,000				
	100.0	90.7	9.3	100.0	26.7	47.1	24.2	2.1

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 32. Loss of time from work, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Total			Amount of time lost				
	Total	No time lost	Time lost	Total	Less than 1 day	1–5 days	6 days or more	Not known
Well known	2,125,000			196,000				
	100.0	90.8	9.2	100.0	28.5	44.0	26.2	[1]1.2
Related	1,095,000			164,000				
	100.0	84.4	15.6	100.0	17.0	59.8	22.3	[1]0.8
Spouse/ex-spouse	616,000			98,000				
	100.0	84.1	15.9	100.0	12.8	67.7	19.5	[1]0.0
Parent	57,000			8,000				
	100.0	85.1	[1]14.9	[1]100.0	[1]19.3	[1]51.9	[1]28.8	[1]0.0
Own child	38,000			9,000				
	100.0	75.3	[1]24.7	[1]100.0	[1]13.0	[1]55.6	[1]31.4	[1]0.0
Brother/sister	76,000			11,000				
	100.0	85.7	14.3	100.0	[1]48.3	[1]23.6	[1]16.1	[1]11.9
Other relative	268,000			37,000				
	100.0	86.0	14.0	100.0	[1]19.5	52.7	27.8	[1]0.0
Not available	140,000			20,000				
	100.0	86.0	14.0	100.0	[1]27.8	[1]50.7	[1]16.0	[1]5.5

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 33. Reporting to the police, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Total	Reported	Not reported	Not known
Intimate	3,809,000	1,699,000	2,085,000	25,000
	100.0	44.6	54.7	0.6
Well known	2,517,000	981,000	1,519,000	17,000
	100.0	39.0	60.4	0.7
Related	1,150,000	653,000	489,000	8,000
	100.0	56.8	42.5	[1]0.7
Not available	140,000	64,000	76,000	0
	100.0	45.7	54.3	[1]0.0
Nonintimate	14,125,000	6,164,000	7,844,000	117,000
	100.0	43.6	55.5	0.8

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 34. Reporting to the police, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Total	Reported	Not reported	Not known
Well known	2,125,000			
	100.0	37.7	61.8	0.5
Related	1,055,000			
	100.0	56.0	43.3	[1]0.8
Spouse/ex-spouse	616,000			
	100.0	56.8	42.6	[1]0.6
Parent	57,000			
	100.0	47.3	50.8	[1]1.9
Own child	38,000			
	100.0	58.8	39.7	[1]1.6
Brother/sister	76,000			
	100.0	53.6	45.7	[1]0.7
Other relative	268,000			
	100.0	56.2	43.0	[1]0.8
Not available	140,000			
	100.0	45.7	54.3	[1]0.0

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 35. Reasons for not reporting to the police, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Total	Nothing could be done; lack of proof	Not important enough	Police would not want to be bothered	Too inconvenient or time consuming	Private or personal matter	Did not want to get involved	Fear of reprisal	Reported to someone else	Other
Intimate	2,085,000	11.5	20.7	7.6	1.1	48.1	4.2	6.6	14.8	16.4
Well known	1,519,000	11.6	25.1	7.2	1.3	43.0	4.5	6.5	16.9	16.8
Related	489,000	11.7	8.2	9.3	[1]0.8	65.4	3.2	6.5	6.0	15.0
Not available	76,000	[1]7.3	13.3	[1]4.7	[1]0.0	38.3	[1]4.9	[1]8.9	29.1	16.4
Nonintimate	7,844,000	26.8	32.1	8.7	4.4	16.3	4.8	5.2	14.8	19.3

NOTE: Detail may add to more than 100 percent because of multiple response.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 36. Reasons for not reporting to the police, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Total	Nothing could be done; lack of proof	Not important enough	Police would not want to be bothered	Too inconvenient or time consuming	Private or personal matter	Did not want to get involved	Fear of reprisal	Reported to someone else	Other
Well known	1,314,000	11.1	25.5	6.8	1.5	44.9	4.5	6.4	15.7	16.0
Related	457,000	10.6	8.2	8.6	[1]0.8	65.7	2.9	6.7	6.1	15.6
Spouse/ex-spouse	263,000	12.9	5.6	10.5	[1]1.0	63.5	4.1	7.8	[1]7.6	15.4
Parent	29,000	[1]4.4	[1]4.4	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	72.5	[1]0.8	[1]9.8	[1]0.0	[1]8.8
Own child	15,000	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	[1]7.2	[1]0.0	[1]47.6	[1]0.8	[1]0.0	[1]3.9	[1]48.5
Brother/sister	35,000	[1]6.3	[1]7.5	[1]3.5	[1]0.0	62.8	[1]0.0	[1]3.5	[1]5.5	[1]14.6
Other relative	115,000	[1]7.3	16.3	[1]8.0	[1]1.0	72.3	[1]2.2	[1]5.2	[1]4.9	13.7
Not available	76,000	[1]7.3	13.3	[1]4.7	[1]0.0	38.3	[1]4.9	[1]8.9	29.1	16.4

NOTE: Detail may add to more than 100 percent because of multiple response.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 37. Summary measures, the aftermath, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Total	Injured	Required medical attention	Medical cost incurred	Hospital or emergency room treatment	Work-time lost	Reported to police
Intimate	3,809,000	40.2	13.5	11.2	9.6	11.6	44.6
Well known	2,517,000	35.5	11.9	9.5	8.5	9.5	39.0
Related	1,150,000	50.4	17.1	15.1	12.3	16.0	56.8
Not available	140,000	39.1	12.5	8.0	7.7	14.0	45.7
Nonintimate	14,125,000	28.9	10.2	8.3	7.6	9.3	43.6

Table 38. Summary measures, the aftermath, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Total	Injured	Required medical attention	Medical cost incurred	Hospital or emergency room treatment	Work-time lost	Reported to police
Well known	2,125,000	35.4	12.0	9.4	8.4	9.2	37.7
Related	1,055,000	51.5	17.2	15.1	12.6	15.6	56.0
Spouse/ex-spouse	616,000	58.8	19.0	16.6	13.4	15.9	56.8
Parent	57,000	53.0	[1]11.4	[1]10.9	[1]6.6	[1]14.9	47.3
Own child	38,000	48.7	[1]21.0	[1]21.0	[1]17.8	[1]24.7	58.8
Brother/sister	76,000	51.5	14.3	[1]10.3	[1]11.9	14.3	53.6
Other relative	268,000	34.6	14.5	13.3	11.5	14.0	56.2
Not available	140,000	39.1	12.5	8.0	7.7	14.0	45.7

[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Appendix II

Crime and victim characteristics tables

The four tables that follow contain information relating both to the specific type of violent personal crime committed by intimates and nonintimates and to selected characteristics of the victims. As was true for the Appendix I tables, data in this section are estimates of the total universe of crimes committed against persons age 12 and older during the 1973-76 interval. These estimates, like others, vary in their degree of reliability and are subject to the same kinds of sampling and nonsampling errors discussed in Appendix IV.

The first two tables contain information relating to type of crime (rape, robbery, or assault) for the major analytical groupings (Table A) and the more detailed categories of intimates (Table B). To summarize, the findings show that:

- Assault was far and away the most common crime, irrespective of the relationship between victim and offender.
- Compared with nonintimate crimes, a higher proportion of incidents involving friends, neighbors, or relatives were assaults, particularly simple assaults.
- As might be expected, theft was very rare in intimate encounters. However, a fourth of the nonintimate crimes were robberies.

Tables C and D, also based on survey results for 1973-76, provide estimates by sex, race, marital status, and annual family income. Totals in these two tables are greater than those in the preceding tabulations because the *victimization* is the unit of measure, and, as noted earlier, multiple victimizations took place in a number of incidents (see the technical notes and glossary).

Extreme caution must be exercised when utilizing data relating to victim characteristics, and inferences concerning relative vulnerability should not be drawn from the details presented in Tables C and D. Underreporting of acts of intimate violence is recognized as a problem in this and other surveys; it no doubt affects both estimates of the overall size of the phenomenon and their distribution among population groups.

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Table A. Type of violent incident, by victim-offender relationship

Relationship	Crimes of violence	Rape	Robbery			Assault		
			Total	With injury	Without injury	Total	Aggravated	Simple
Intimate	3,809,000	92,000	339,000	151,000	188,000	3,378,000	1,182,000	2,196,000
	100.0	2.4	8.9	4.0	4.9	88.7	31.0	57.7
Well known	2,917,000	56,000	222,000	84,000	138,000	2,239,000	746,000	1,493,000
	100.0	2.2	8.8	3.3	5.5	89.0	29.6	59.3
Related	1,150,000	30,000	102,000	60,000	43,000	1,018,000	389,000	629,000
	100.0	2.6	8.9	5.2	3.7	88.5	33.8	54.7
Not available	140,000	6,000	15,000	7,000	7,000	120,000	47,000	73,000
	100.0	[1]4.5	10.4	[1]5.2	[1]5.1	85.1	33.2	51.9
Nonintimate	14,125,000	492,000	3,417,000	1,113,000	2,305,000	10,216,000	3,777,000	6,438,000
	100.0	3.5	24.2	7.9	16.3	72.3	26.7	45.6

NOTE: Detail may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table B. Type of violent incident, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender incidents)

Relationship	Crimes of violence	Rape	Robbery			Assault		
			Total	With injury	Without injury	Total	Aggravated	Simple
Well known	2,125,000							
	100.0	2.5	7.8	2.8	5.0	89.8	30.8	59.7
Related	1,055,000							
	100.0	2.7	8.2	5.0	3.2	89.1	33.9	55.2
Spouse/ex-spouse	616,000							
	100.0	2.1	7.6	5.4	2.2	90.3	30.9	59.4
Parent	97,000							
	100.0	[1]0.0	18.2	[1]11.3	[1]6.7	82.0	41.5	40.5
Own child	38,000							
	100.0	[1]0.0	[1]15.4	[1]6.5	[1]8.9	84.6	41.7	42.9
Brother/sister	76,000							
	100.0	[1]0.0	[1]6.3	[1]2.2	[1]4.1	93.7	36.9	56.8
Other relative	268,000							
	100.0	5.8	6.9	[1]3.3	[1]3.6	87.2	37.2	50.0
Not available	140,000							
	100.0	[1]4.5	10.4	[1]5.2	[1]5.1	85.1	33.2	51.9

NOTE: Detail may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table C. Selected characteristics of victims, by victim-offender relationship

Characteristic	Intimates				Nonintimates
	Total	Well known	Related	Not available	
Total	4,336,000 (100.0)	2,861,000 (100.0)	1,311,000 (100.0)	162,000 (100.0)	17,140,000 (100.0)
Sex					
Male	1,904,000 43.9	1,480,000 51.7	342,000 26.1	82,000 50.5	11,883,000 69.3
Female	2,432,000 56.1	1,382,000 48.3	969,000 73.9	80,000 49.5	5,257,000 30.7
Race					
White	3,448,000 79.5	2,273,000 79.4	1,052,000 80.3	121,000 74.8	14,739,000 86.0
Black	826,000 19.0	548,000 19.1	242,000 18.5	35,000 21.7	2,175,000 12.7
Other	62,000 1.4	41,000 1.4	16,000 1.2	6,000 3.4	226,000 1.3
Marital status					
Never married	1,868,000 43.1	1,558,000 54.4	218,000 16.6	92,000 56.7	8,894,000 51.9
Married	1,283,000 29.6	778,000 27.2	457,000 34.9	47,000 29.0	6,036,000 35.2
Widowed	121,000 2.9	98,000 3.4	23,000 1.8	0 [1]0.0	470,000 2.7
Divorced and separated	1,057,000 24.4	423,000 14.8	610,000 46.5	23,000 14.3	1,702,000 9.9
Not available	7,000 [1]0.2	5,000 [1]0.2	2,000 [1]0.2	0 [1]0.0	40,000 0.2
Income					
Less than $3,000	790,000 18.2	509,000 17.8	250,000 19.1	30,000 18.7	2,065,000 12.0
$3,000-$7,499	1,277,000 29.5	747,000 26.1	479,000 36.6	51,000 31.2	4,039,000 23.6
$7,500-$9,999	489,000 11.3	321,000 11.2	154,000 11.7	15,000 9.0	1,924,000 11.2
$10,000-$14,999	787,000 18.2	570,000 19.9	188,000 14.3	29,000 18.0	3,810,000 22.2
$15,000-$24,999	574,000 13.2	425,000 14.9	123,000 9.4	25,000 15.1	3,026,000 17.7
$25,000 or more	146,000 3.4	112,000 3.9	28,000 2.1	6,000 [1]3.6	1,070,000 6.2
Not available	273,000 6.3	177,000 6.2	88,000 6.7	7,000 [1]4.4	1,207,000 7.0

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table D. Selected characteristics of victims, by detailed intimate relationship (single-offender victimizations)

Characteristic	Well known	Related						Not available
		Total	Spouse/ ex-spouse	Parent	Own child	Brother/ sister	Other relative	
Total	2,375,000 (100.0)	1,195,000 (100.0)	655,000 (100.0)	74,000 (100.0)	47,000 (100.0)	89,000 (100.0)	331,000 (100.0)	162,000 (100.0)
Sex								
Male	50.8	24.2	5.4	47.4	56.0	49.5	44.9	50.5
Female	49.2	75.8	94.6	52.6	44.0	50.5	55.1	49.5
Race								
White	79.2	80.2	81.7	76.0	92.9	81.9	76.0	74.8
Black	19.4	18.5	16.8	24.0	[1]3.2	15.0	23.5	21.7
Other	1.4	1.3	1.5	[1]0.0	[1]3.9	[1]3.1	[1]0.0	3.4
Marital status								
Never married	52.3	15.7	[1]0.8	73.3	[1]5.2	47.4	25.3	56.7
Married	28.0	33.8	25.3	19.0	67.5	34.7	48.8	29.0
Widowed	3.7	1.8	[1]0.2	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	[1]5.6	4.5	[1]0.0
Divorced and separated	15.8	48.5	73.3	[1]7.7	27.3	12.4	21.3	14.3
Not available	[1]0.1	[1]0.2	[1]0.4	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	[1]0.0	[1]0.0
Income								
Less than $3,000	18.0	19.3	20.2	28.6	8.9	21.1	18.2	18.7
$3,000-$7,499	26.7	35.8	35.9	24.7	21.5	39.0	39.3	31.2
$7,500-$9,999	10.9	11.8	9.5	19.1	25.5	11.5	12.9	9.0
$10,000-$14,999	19.6	14.2	14.1	16.1	[1]18.1	12.0	14.0	18.0
$15,000-$24,999	14.8	10.1	10.8	[1]11.6	[1]21.2	[1]6.9	7.7	15.1
$25,000 or more	4.1	2.1	2.3	[1]4.7	[1]2.3	[1]0.0	[1]1.8	[1]3.6
Not available	9.9	6.7	7.3	[1]3.3	[1]2.5	[1]0.5	6.1	[1]4.4

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
[1]Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Appendix III

Technical notes

This section provides an explanation of concepts and terms used in the body of the report. Although not all-inclusive, the notes cover the most important items, and, when used in conjunction with the glossary, should provide the necessary technical base upon which to evaluate the findings.

In this report the unit of measure is the *incident*. By definition, an incident is a specific criminal act involving one or more victims and one or more offenders. The other measure used in National Crime Survey reports, and in Tables C and D of Appendix IV relating to victim characteristics, is the *victimization*. A victimization is a specific criminal act as it affects a single victim. To illustrate the difference between the two measures, if during a family feud three individuals were assaulted, the event would produce three victimizations but only one incident.

Because the purpose of this report is to provide information on the characteristics of the crime itself, it was decided to utilize the incident as the basic measure, even though there are some characteristics more appropriately measured as victimizations. Utilization of one measure allows for continuity throughout the data tables. In assessing the impact on analysis it should be noted that in the vast majority of crimes, the two measures were interchangeable because only one individual was victimized.

Intimates and nonintimates

The relationship of the victim and offender is the major analytical focus of this report. Respondents, of course, determine the exact relationship between parties; their responses are categorized and then reformated for this report to form the intimate-nonintimate break. Individuals considered to be related (including ex-spouses) or well known (friends, neighbors, classmates, co-workers, etc.,) are regarded as intimates; others, whether strangers, near-strangers, or casual acquaintances, are defined as nonintimates. It should be mentioned that these terms are not synonymous with the terms "nonstranger" and "stranger" used in other National Crime Survey reports. The primary distinction is that "nonstranger" includes casual acquaintances, persons regarded as nonintimates in this report.

When there was more than one offender, the act was designated as intimate in nature if one or more offenders were related or *all* were well known. This definition, while facilitating data tabulation, has the potential for understating intimate crimes, specifically those crimes involving one or more, but not all, individuals who were well known. This understatement, however, is at best minor, because there were few cases of this kind in the sample.

With respect to the more detailed intimate relationships, the presentation is restricted to single-offender crimes because of the difficulty in obtaining discrete category data for multiple-offender crimes. Since violent crime committed by several intimates appears to be unusual, this procedure has little, if any, impact on the analysis.

Number of offenders

In the sequence of survey questions on offender characteristics, the lead question concerned the number of offenders present. When the victim did not know if one or more than one offender took part in the incident, no further questions were asked about the relationship of the offender. These cases *are excluded* from this report.

Use of weapons

Information was gathered on whether or not the victim observed that the offenders were armed, and, if so, the type of weapon present. The mere presence of a weapon constituted "use"; thus, the term applies both to situations in which weapons were used to intimidate or threaten and to those in which they actually were employed in a physical attack.

In addition to firearms and knives, the data tables distinguish "other" weapons and those of unknown type. The category "other" refers to such objects as clubs, stones, bricks, and bottles. For each crime, the type or types of weapon present was recorded, not the number. For instance, if offenders wielded two firearms and a knife in an attack, the crime was classified as one in which weapons of each type were used.

Threats and attacks

Persons confronted by an offender provided information on the general nature of the abusive act, whether threat or attack, and the specific type or types of actions taken. Attacks listed in the questionnaire included rape; attempted rape; being hit by an object held in the hand, shot or knifed; being hit by a thrown object; being slapped or knocked down; or being grabbed, held, tripped, jumped, or pushed. Threats included verbal abuse of any kind; the threat of rape; the presence or threat of

a weapon; attempted attack with a weapon or thrown object; or being followed or surrounded.

In this report, cases involving an attempted attack with a weapon and/or thrown object, whether or not accompanied by other threats, were extracted *from the body of threats and treated as attempted attacks.*

Victim self-protection

Information was obtained on whether or not victims tried to rebuff a threat or an attack, and, if so, the measures they took. Findings relating to the presence or absence of self-protection are based on the 4 years of data (1973-76) utilized in other tabulations. Information on the type of measures taken is restricted to the last 3 years (1974-76) because categories in the relevant question were changed in 1974.

Measures defined as passive in this report included reasoning with the offender, fleeing from the offender, and screaming or yelling for help; active reactions included hitting, kicking, or scratching the offender, and using or brandishing a weapon. For multiple responses, classification was determined by the presence or absence of one or more active responses.

Medical attention and expenses

Victims who had been injured furnished information on whether or not they "needed medical attention," or hospitalization, and on their medical expenses, if any. Needing medical attention was defined as obtaining treatment from a trained medical professional. If aid was not sought, or if self-treatment or nonprofessional treatment was obtained, a negative response should have been recorded. It is thought, however, that because "need" was not always defined by interviewers, some responses might have been based on differing conceptions such as the seriousness of the injury.

Individuals needing (acquiring) treatment were asked if they were hospitalized, and, if so, whether it was inpatient or emergency room treatment. In this report, tables displaying information on type of treatment have three basic categories, "inpatient care," "emergency room care," and "other." The last category encompasses those cases in which treatment was obtained at places other than hospitals, such as at the scene of the crime, at a medical or dental office, or at a clinic. Individuals who mistakenly said they needed attention when they did not receive any also were in this category.

Tables on medical expenses include many incidents in which there were missing data. Most involved victims who had undetermined medical expenses, although there may have been some cases in which the victim did not know if there had been any expenses at all. The large number of incidents in the "not known and not available" category weakens the analysis; however, it was decided to include them in the table to preserve the continuity of the presentation.

Time lost from work

The survey determined whether persons lost time from work after the crime, and, if so, the length of time involved. It did not record the identity of the household member (or members) who lost work time, although it may be assumed that it probably was the victim who sustained the loss.

Reporting to the police

The police may have learned about a crime directly from the victim or from someone else, such as another household member or a bystander, or because they appeared on the scene at the time of the crime. In the data tables, however, the means by which police learned of the crime are not distinguished; the overall proportion made known to them was of primary concern.

Interviewers recorded all reasons cited by respondents for not reporting crimes to the police. Data tables on this topic distribute all reasons for not reporting, and no determination has been made of the primary reason, if any, for not reporting the crime.

Appendix IV

Information on the sample and reliability of the estimates

Survey results contained in this report are based on data collected from a sample of persons living in households throughout the Nation and from persons living in group quarters, such as dormitories, rooming houses, and religious group dwellings. Excluded from the survey were crews of merchant vessels, Armed Forces personnel living in military barracks, institutionalized persons, U.S. citizens residing abroad, and foreign visitors to this country. With these exceptions, all individuals age 12 and over living in households designated for the sample were eligible to be interviewed.

Each interviewer's first contact with a unit selected for the survey was in person, and, if it were not possible to secure interviews with all eligible members of the household during this initial visit, interviews by telephone were permissible thereafter. The only exceptions to the requirement for personal interview applied to 12- and 13-year-olds, incapacitated persons, and individuals who were absent from the household during the entire field interviewing period; for such persons, interviewers were required to obtain proxy responses from a knowledgeable adult member of the household. Survey records were processed and weighted, yielding results representative both of the Nation's population as a whole and of sectors within society. Because they are based on a sample survey rather than a complete enumeration, the results are estimates.

Sample design and size

Households were chosen for interview by means of a stratified multistage cluster sample. This complex selection procedure produced a potential universe of approximately 73,000 housing units and other living quarters. Then, for the purpose of conducting the field interviews, the sample was divided into six groups, or rotations, each of which contained housing units whose occupants were to be interviewed once every 6 months over a period of 3 years. After these groups have completed their time in sample, they are replaced by new groups consisting of households selected in a similar manner.

As might be expected, not all housing units which are designated for the sample provide interviews; of the units selected, interviews were eventually obtained for about 60,000 each year. Most of the noninterviewed units were found to be vacant, demolished, or turned into nonresidential use; the residents of only about 4 percent of the units considered eligible were not interviewed.

Because a major objective of the survey is to provide measures of the total incidence of crime throughout the United States, sample data are inflated or weighted up by means of a multistage estimation procedure. The estimation procedure is performed on a quarterly basis to produce quarterly estimates of the volume and rates of victimization and these in turn are aggregated to produce annual estimates. Simply stated, the inflation process starts with a basic weight equal to the reciprocal of the probability of selection and then is refined further to reduce the variability of the sample estimates.

Reliability of estimates

As previously noted, statistical data contained in this report are estimates. Despite the precautions taken to minimize sampling variability, the estimates are subject to errors arising from the fact that the sample employed in conducting the survey was only one of a large number of possible samples of equal size that could have been used applying the same sample design and selection procedures. Estimates derived from different samples may vary somewhat; they also may differ from figures obtainable if a complete census had been taken using the same schedules, instructions, and interviewers.

The standard error of a survey estimate is a measure of the variation among estimates from all possible samples and is, therefore, a gauge of the precision with which the estimate from a particular sample approximates the average result of all possible samples. The estimate and its associated standard error may be used to construct a confidence interval, that is, an interval having a prescribed probability that it would include the average result of all possible samples. The average value of all possible samples may or may not be contained in any particular computed interval. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that the survey estimate would differ from the average result of all possible samples by less than one standard error. Similarly, the chances are about 90 out of 100 that the difference would be less than 1.6 times the standard error; about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be 2.0 times the standard error; and 99 out of 100 chances that it would be less than 2.5 times the standard error. The 68 percent confidence interval is defined as the range of values given by the estimate minus the standard error and the estimate plus the standard error; the chances are 68 in 100 that

this range would contain the figure from a complete census. Likewise, the 95 percent confidence interval is defined as the estimate plus or minus two standard errors.

In addition to sampling error, the estimates presented in this report are subject to so-called nonsampling error. Major sources of such error are related to the ability of respondents to recall victimization experiences and associated details that occurred during the 6 months prior to the time of interview and the underreporting of intimate violence. In addition, it is suspected that, among certain societal groups, crimes that contain the elements of assault are a part of everyday life and, thus, are simply forgotten or are not considered worth mentioning to a survey interviewer. Nonsampling errors can also result from incomplete or erroneous responses, systematic mistakes introduced by interviewers, and improper coding and processing of data. Many of these errors would also occur in a complete census. Quality control measures, such as interviewer observation, with retraining and reinterviewing, as appropriate, as well as edit procedures in the field and at the clerical and computer processing stages, were utilized to keep such errors at an acceptably low level. As calculated for the survey, the standard errors partially measure only those nonsampling errors arising from random response and interviewer errors; they do not, however, take into account any systematic biases in the data.

Concerning the reliability of data from the survey, it should be noted that estimates based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases have been considered unreliable. Such estimates are qualified in footnotes to the data tables and were not used for purposes of analysis in this report.

As they appear in the report's data tables, all numbers shown on the tables have been rounded to the nearest thousandth. Relative figures were calculated from unrounded figures.

Computation and application of the standard error

Survey results presented in this report were tested to determine whether or not statistical significance could be associated with observed differences through the utilization of standard errors. Differences between pairs of values were tested to determine whether they equalled either 2.0 standard errors (95 percent confidence level) or 1.6 standard errors (90 percent confidence level). Unless appropriately qualified, all statements in this report have met the statistical test at the 95 percent level.

The procedures for computing standard errors and for performing tests of significance with values other than those already tested in the preparation of this report are described below.

With respect to the comparison of percents derived from *different* bases, the procedure for computing the standard error of a difference is given by the following formula:

Standard error of the difference $(X_1 - X_2)$ =

$$\sqrt{\left(\frac{X_1(1.0 - X_1)}{D_1}\right)B + \left(\frac{(X_2(1.0 - X_2)}{D_2}\right)B}$$

The symbols are defined as follows:

X_1 — First percentage value (expressed in decimal form) to be tested.

X_2 — Second percentage value (also expressed in decimal form) to be tested.

D_1 — Base from which the first percent is derived.

D_2 — Base from which the second percent is derived.

B — A constant, equivalent to 1,821, which is based on the full sample and incorporates the design effect of the survey and the sample size for the percentage.

To illustrate the use of the formula, Data Table 33 shows that the proportion of crimes reported to the police by persons victimized by relatives was 56.8, and for those victimized by well-known offenders, 39.0. Substituting the appropriate values into the formula yields:

Standard error of the difference (.568 − .390) =

$$\sqrt{\left(\frac{.568\ (1.0 - .568)}{1{,}150{,}000}\right)\ 1{,}821 + \left(\frac{.390\ (1.0 - .390)}{2{,}517{,}000}\right)\ 1{,}821}$$

$$= \sqrt{\left(\frac{.568\ (.432)}{1{,}150{,}000}\right)\ 1{,}821 + \left(\frac{.390\ (.610)}{2{,}517{,}000}\right)\ 1{,}821}$$

$$= \sqrt{\left(\frac{.245376}{1{,}150{,}000}\right) 1{,}821 + \left(\frac{.2379}{2{,}517{,}000}\right)\ 1{,}821}$$

$$= \sqrt{(.00000021337)\ \ 1{,}821 + \ (.00000009452)\ \ 1{,}821}$$

$$= \sqrt{.00038854677 + .00017212092}$$

$$= \sqrt{.00056066769}$$

$$= .02367842246 \text{ which rounds to } .024.$$

Thus, the confidence interval at one standard error is approximately 2.4 percentage points around the difference of 17.8 percent (56.8 - 39.0 = 17.8), or 4.8 percentage points at the two standard error level. A 68 percent confidence interval places the difference between 15.4 and 20.2 (17.8 plus or minus 2.4) and a 95 percent confidence interval places it between 13.0 and 22.6 (17.8 plus or minus 4.8). The ratio of differences to their standard error defines values that can be converted to levels of significance. For example, a ratio of about 2.0 (or more) denotes that the difference is significant at the 95 percent confidence level (or higher); a ratio ranging between about 1.6 and 2.0 indicates that the difference is significant at a confidence level between 90 and 95 percent; and a ratio of less than about 1.6 defines a level of confidence below 90 percent. In the above example, the ratio of the difference (17.8) to its standard error (2.4) equals 7.42. Therefore, it was concluded that the differences in police reporting for the two groups was statistically significant at a confidence level exceeding 95 percent.

The formula below represents the procedure for calculating the standard error of a difference when both of the percents are derived from the *same* base:

$$\text{Standard error of the difference } (X_1 - X_2) = = \sqrt{\left(\frac{B}{D}\left(X_1 + X_2 - (X_1 - X_2)^2\right)\right)}$$

where the symbols are the same as those described for the previous formula, except that D refers to the base from which the two percents are derived.

To illustrate the application of this formula, Data Table 29 shows that the proportion of those victims of intimate crimes reporting medical expenses of less than $50 was 27.2 percent; the proportion reporting expenses in the range of $50-$249 was 24.8. Substituting the appropriate values into the formula yields the following:

$$\text{Standard error of the difference } (.272 - .248) = = \sqrt{\left(\frac{1{,}821}{425{,}000}\quad (.272 + .248 - (.272 - .248)^2)\right)}$$

$$= \sqrt{.0042847\ (.52 - .000576)}$$

$$= \sqrt{.0042847\ (.519424)}$$

$$= \sqrt{.0022256}$$

$$= .0471760 \text{ which rounds to } .047.$$

The confidence interval at one standard error around the difference of 2.4 percent would be from -2.3 to 7.1 percent (2.4 plus or minus 4.7). The ratio of the difference (2.4) to its standard error (4.7) is equal to .511, which is less than 1.6. Thus, in accordance with standards observed in analyzing survey results in this report, statistical significance would *not* be attached to the difference between the two percentages.

Glossary

Active response—Victim resistance characterized by the use or display of a gun or knife, or the use or attempted use of physical force against the offender.

Aggravated assault—Attack with a weapon resulting in any injury and attack without a weapon resulting either in serious injury (e.g., broken bones, loss of teeth, internal injuries, loss of consciousness) or in undetermined injury requiring 2 or more days of hospitalization. Also includes attempted assault with a weapon.

Annual family income—Includes the income of the household head and all other related persons residing in the same household unit. Covers the 12 months preceding the interview and includes wages, salaries, net income from business or farm, pensions, interest, dividends, rent, and any other form of monetary income. The income of persons unrelated to the head of household is excluded.

Assault—An unlawful physical attack, whether aggravated or simple, upon a person. Includes attempted assaults with or without a weapon. Excludes rape and attempted rape, as well as attacks involving theft or attempted theft, which are classified as robbery.

Attempted attack—An incident in which an offender throws an object or shoots at a victim, or otherwise initiates, but fails to complete, a violent crime.

Completed attack—An incident in which an offender carries out a violent crime against an individual by raping or attempting to rape, by shooting or knifing, hitting, grabbing, punching, or physically abusing in some other fashion.

Family violence—An incident of violent crime committed by a relative. Includes incidents involving ex-spouses.

Household—Consists of the occupants of separate living quarters meeting either of the following criteria: (1) Persons, whether present or temporarily absent, whose usual place of residence is the housing unit in question, or (2) Persons staying in the housing unit who have no usual place of residence elsewhere.

Incident—A specific criminal act involving one or more victims and offenders.

Intimate—An individual who is related through kinship or marriage or who is well known, such as a good friend, neighbor, classmate, or work associate. Includes ex-spouses.

Intimate violence—An incident of violent crime committed by an individual who is well known or related. Multiple-offender crimes are defined as intimate violence when one or more of the offenders are related or all are well known to the victim.

Marital status—Each household member is assigned to one of the following categories: (1) Married, which includes persons having common-law unions and those parted temporarily for reasons other than marital discord (employment, military service, etc.); (2) Separated and divorced. Separated includes married persons who have a legal separation or have parted because of marital discord; (3) Widowed; and (4) Never married, which includes those whose only marriage has been annulled and those living together (excluding common-law unions).

Medical attention—As defined by the survey, aid secured from a trained medical professional, such as a doctor, nurse, medic, or dentist, either at the scene of the crime, or at an office, hospital, clinic, etc.

Nonintimate—A stranger, someone known by sight only, or a casual acquaintance.

Nonintimate violence—Criminal acts committed by strangers, casual acquaintances, or persons known by sight only. Multiple-offender violence is defined as nonintimate when none of the assailants is well known or related or when only some are well known and the rest nonintimates.

Offender—The perpetrator of a crime; the term generally is applied in relation to crimes entailing contact between victim and offender.

Offense—A crime; with respect to personal crimes, the two terms can be used interchangeably, irrespective of whether the applicable unit of measure is a victimization or an incident.

Passive response—Victim resistance characterized by such nonviolent measures as arguing with or threatening the offender, screaming or calling for help, running away, or shielding one's self.

Personal crimes of violence—Rape, robbery, or assault. Includes both completed and attempted acts.

Race—Determined by the interviewer upon observation, and asked only about persons not related to the head of household who were not present at the time of the interview. The racial categories distinguished are white, black, and other. The category "other" consists mainly of American Indians and persons of Asian ancestry.

Rape—Carnal knowledge through the use of force or the threat of force, including attempts. Statutory rape (without force) is excluded. Includes both heterosexual and homosexual rape.

Robbery—Theft or attempted theft, directly from a person or a business, of property or cash by force or threat of force, with or without a weapon.

Robbery with injury—Theft or attempted theft from a person, accompanied by an attack, either with or without a weapon, resulting in injury. An injury is classified as resulting from a serious assault if a weapon was used in the commission of the crime or, if not, when the extent of the injury was either serious (e.g., broken bones, loss of teeth, internal injuries, loss of consciousness) or undetermined but requiring 2 or more days of hospitalization. An injury is classified as resulting from a minor assault when the extent of the injury is minor (e.g., bruises, black eyes, cuts, scratches, swelling) or undetermined but requiring less than 2 days of hospitalization.

Robbery without injury—Theft or attempted theft from a person, accompanied by force or the threat of force, either with or without a weapon, but not resulting in injury.

Simple assault—Attack without a weapon resulting either in minor injury (e.g., bruises, black eyes, cuts, scratches, swelling) or in undetermined injury requiring less than 2 days of hospitalization. Also includes attempted assault without a weapon.

Threat—An incident characterized by no more than verbal harassment, a display of a weapon, or any other form of nonphysical intimidation.

Victim—The recipient of a criminal act.

Victimization—A specific criminal act as it affects a single victim. In criminal acts against persons, the number of victimizations is determined by the number of victims of such acts; ordinarily, the number of victimizations is somewhat higher than the number of incidents because more than one individual is victimized during certain incidents.

Victimize—To perpetrate a crime against a person.

Violent crime—See "Personal crimes of violence," above.

Well known—As pertains to victim-offender relationship, the quality of being closely associated or intimately connected, through friendship or continued contact as neighbors, work associates, or classmates.

USER EVALUATION

Intimate Victims: A Study of Violence Among Friends and Relatives
NCJ-62319, SD-NCS-N-14

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